

July 19, 2012

Dennis Madison
Southern Nuclear
Chairman, BWR Vessel and Internals Project
3420 Hillview Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94304-1395

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR THE REVIEW OF ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE (EPRI) REPORT: "BWR [BOILING WATER REACTOR] CORE SHROUD INSPECTION AND FLAW EVALUATION GUIDELINES" (BWRVIP-76, REVISION 1) (TAC NO. ME8317)

Dear Mr. Madison:

By letter dated June 30, 2011, the EPRI submitted for U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff review Topical Report (TR), BWRVIP-76, Revision 1, "BWR Core Shroud Inspection and Flaw Evaluation Guidelines." The NRC staff has performed an acceptance review of BWRVIP-76, Revision 1, and found that the material presented provides the technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to conduct a detailed technical review.

The NRC staff expects to issue its request for additional information by January 31, 2013, and issue its draft safety evaluation by December 31, 2013. The NRC staff estimates that the review will require approximately 100 staff hours including project management time. The review schedule milestones and estimated review costs were discussed and agreed upon in a telephone conference between Larry Steinert representing EPRI and the NRC staff on July 3, 2012.

In accordance with the letter dated August 16, 2011 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML11227A210), the Office of the Chief Financial Officer has waived the Section 170.21 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* fees associated with this TR review.

If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact Joseph Holonich at (301) 415-7297.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John R. Jolicoeur, Chief
Licensing Process Branch
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 704

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