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LTR-NRC-13-42

June 20, 2013

Subject: Support for NRC Review of Westinghouse Topical Report WCAP-16996-P Volumes I, II, and III, Revision 0, "Realistic LOCA Evaluation Methodology Applied to the Full Spectrum of Break Sizes (FULL SPECTRUM LOCA Methodology)" Docket 700 (TAC# ME5244)

Reference: Westinghouse Letter LTR-NRC-10-73, "Submittal of WCAP-16996-P Volumes I, II, and III, Revision 0 and WCAP-16996-NP, Volumes I, II, and III, Revision 0, 'Realistic LOCA Evaluation Methodology Applied to the Full Spectrum of Break Sizes (FULL SPECTRUM LOCA Methodology),' (Proprietary/Non-Proprietary) for Review and Approval" dated November 23, 2010

Dear Sir or Madam:

Westinghouse has submitted WCAP-16996-P Volumes I, II, III, Revision 0, "Realistic LOCA Evaluation Methodology Applied to Full Spectrum of Break Sizes" to the NRC (Document Control No.: LTR-NRC-10-73 dated November 23, 2010, ADAMS Accession # ML103610186) for review and issuance of a SE (Safety Evaluation). Multiple utilities are planning to implement the Westinghouse realistic Loss of Coolant Accident (LOCA) evaluation methodology as applied to the full spectrum of break sizes (FULL SPECTRUMTM Loss-of-Coolant Accident Evaluation Methodology) at their nuclear power stations. Additionally this methodology will be used to support the reanalysis commitments made by various utilities in response to addressing the impact associated with fuel thermal conductivity degradation (TCD).

Westinghouse is striving to ensure that updates to plants will utilize the latest available technology with high reliability and availability. This methodology is being utilized because of improvements to the WCOBRA/TRAC-TF2 code, best estimate analysis methodology, and the extension of best estimate LOCA analysis methodology to the full spectrum of break sizes.

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Utilities plan on using a methodology that has an approved SE in order to allow for efficiencies and minimize the time for review of License Amendment Requests implementing these modifications. Therefore, Westinghouse requests that the NRC consider the planned submittal of forthcoming LARs using the NRC approved WCAP-16996-P in the determination of the priority for the NRC review of similar Topical Reports. This will allow utilities to have an approved methodology for consideration in the 2015 timeframe.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Jim Gresham at (412) 374-4643.

Sincerely,

rano James A. Gresham, Manager

Regulatory Compliance