



MITSUBISHI HEAVY INDUSTRIES, LTD.

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TOKYO, JAPAN**

November 5, 2013

Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC20555-0001

Attention: David B. Matthews, Director, Division of New Reactor Licensing

Docket No. 52-021
MHI Ref: UAP-HF-13256

**Subject: Adjustment to Ongoing Efforts for US-APWR Design Certification
Application**

With this letter, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. (MHI) is informing the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) of a necessary adjustment to its ongoing support of the review activities related to our US-APWR Design Certification application. MHI intends to implement a coordinated slowdown of its DCD licensing activities in order to focus its resources towards supporting the Japanese utilities in restarting Mitsubishi designed PWRs in Japan.

As you may know, there are no nuclear plants operating in Japan as a long term result of the event at Fukushima. Twelve of twenty-four Pressurized Water Reactors have applied for restart and are now under licensing review by the new Japanese Nuclear Regulatory Authority. The remaining 12 reactors are preparing their applications for restart. MHI, which designed and built all of the 24 pressurized water reactors (PWRs) in Japan, believes that supporting Japanese utilities in restarting Mitsubishi PWRs should be its highest priority responsibility. In order to meet this responsibility, MHI must refocus its nuclear engineering expertise that was supporting its U.S. activities to the various safety analyses, evaluations and licensing related activities that will be needed in Japan.

MHI needs to make this adjustment to meet the national needs in Japan. Our country's economic competitiveness and our company's future success lie in responding to these changing conditions. MHI remains committed to obtaining a NRC design certification for our US-APWR and also on participating in the US market through our COL partners. We appreciate the NRC's

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support and cooperation in this decision and look forward to continuing our good working relationship.

We expect that a period of reduced support will begin near the end of the first quarter in 2014. MHI intends to work aggressively to resolve outstanding technical issues until that time and appreciates the continued support of the NRC staff reviewers during that timeframe. It is intended that this slowdown will sustain the ongoing review however, work will continue at a reduced level of effort. We will be actively involved with the review process as our resources permit in order to continue the resolution of the technical issues that remain. We will work with your staff to discuss the details of such a work slowdown and define a mutually agreeable strategy going forward. The period needed for this work slowdown is indeterminate because it will depend on the success of bringing units in Japan on-line and on the availability of the necessary expertise to refocus on the US-APWR DCD. For these reasons and because they are out of the realm of our control, the length of time needed for the slowdown is not definitive. Nevertheless, a timely resumption of work in the future will be facilitated by ongoing and routine communications between our staffs in the interim.

As we go forward, MHI will continue to work closely with the staff to ensure that you are kept informed of our progress. While this adjustment will have impact to our ongoing licensing efforts we expect that this will not be permanent. Please contact Mr. Joseph Tapia, General Manager of Licensing Department of MNES, if the NRC has questions concerning any aspect of this letter. His contact information is provided below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Y. Ogata". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "Y" and a stylized "Ogata".

Yoshiki Ogata,
Executive Vice President,
Mitsubishi Nuclear Energy Systems, Inc.
On behalf of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd.

cc: J. Tapia

Contact Information

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