## December 14, 2015

Mr. Harlan Bowers, President X-Energy, LLC 7701 Greenbelt Road, Suite 320 Greenbelt, MD. 20770

SUBJECT: WITHHOLDING PROPRIETARY INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

FOR X-ENERGY LLC'S VOLUNTARY RESPONSE TO REGULATORY ISSUE SUMMARY 2015-07, "PROCESS FOR SCHEDULING AND ALLOCATING RESOURCES IN FISCAL YEAR 2017 FOR THE REVIEW OF NEW LICENSING

APPLICATIONS FOR LARGE LIGHT-WATER REACTORS AND SMALL

MODULAR REACTORS"

Dear Mr. Bowers:

By letter dated December 1, 2015, X-Energy, LLC submitted an affidavit (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML15342A089) in which you requested that the information contained in the following document be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Part 2, Section 2.390:

Response to RIS 2015-07, "Process for Scheduling and Allocating Resources in Fiscal Year 2017 for the Review of New Licensing Applications for Large-Light Water Reactors and Small Modular Reactors." (Proprietary) (ADAMS Accession No. ML15342A090)

The affidavit stated that the submitted information should be considered exempt from mandatory public disclosure because it contains commercially sensitive proprietary information about the planned activities of X-Energy LLC related to the creation and submittal of licensing activities, forecast design development timeframes, and commercial strategy of the Xe-100<sup>TM</sup> advanced reactor. Public disclosure of the information would create substantial harm to X-Energy, LLC because it would reveal valuable business information regarding X-Energy LLC's competitive expectations, assumptions, current position and strategy. The use of the information by a competitor could substantially improve their competitive position in the design, manufacture, licensing, construction and operation of a similar product.

We have reviewed your application and the material in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.390 and, on the basis of the statements in the affidavits, have determined that the submitted information sought to be withheld contains proprietary commercial information and should be withheld from public disclosure.

Therefore, the information marked as proprietary will be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.390(b)(5) and Section 103(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

H. Bowers -2-

Withholding from public inspection shall not affect the right, if any, of persons properly and directly concerned to inspect the documents. If the need arises, we may send copies of this information to our consultants working in this area. We will, of course, ensure that the consultants have signed the appropriate agreements for handling proprietary information.

If the basis for withholding this information from public inspection should change in the future such that the information could then be made available for public inspection, you should promptly notify the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). You also should understand that the NRC may have cause to review this determination in the future, for example, if the scope of a Freedom of Information Act request includes your information. In all review situations, if the NRC makes a determination adverse to the above, you will be notified in advance of any public disclosure.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, I may be reached at 301-415-0498.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jan Mazza, Project Manager Advanced Reactor and Policy Branch Division of Advanced Reactors and Rulemaking Office of New Reactors

Project No.: 0818

cc: Distribution via GovDelivery

H. Bowers -2-

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## ADAMS ACCESSION No.: ML15344A341

NRO-002

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NAME	JMazza	ABradford
DATE	12/14/2015	12/14/2015

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