

June 28, 2016

Mr. Jerald G. Head
Senior Vice President, Regulatory Affairs
GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas, LLC
P.O. Box 780, M/C A-18
Wilmington, NC 28401-0780

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE FOR REVIEW OF GLOBAL NUCLEAR FUEL TOPICAL
REPORT NEDC-33840P, "THE PRIME MODEL FOR TRANSIENT ANALYSIS
OF FUEL ROD THERMAL – MECHANICAL PERFORMANCE"
(CAC NO. MF7687)

Dear Mr. Head:

By letter dated April 22, 2016 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML16113A264), GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy submitted for U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff review Licensing Topical Report (TR) NEDC-33840P, "The PRIME Model for Transient Analysis of Fuel Rod Thermal – Mechanical Performance." The NRC staff has performed an acceptance review of this TR. We have found that the material presented is sufficient to begin our review. We expect to issue our request for additional information, by October 1, 2016, and issue our draft safety evaluation (SE) by January 31, 2017.

This schedule information takes into consideration the NRC's current review priorities and available technical resources and may be subject to change. If modifications to these dates are deemed necessary, we will provide appropriate updates to this information. The NRC staff estimates that the review will require approximately 300 staff hours including project management. The review schedule milestones and estimated review costs were discussed and agreed upon in an email exchange between Mr. James Harrison and the NRC staff on June 9, 2016.

Section 170.21 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* requires that TRs are subject to fees based on the full cost of the review. You did not request a fee waiver; therefore, NRC staff hours will be billed accordingly.

As with all TRs, the SE will be reviewed by the NRC's Office of the General Counsel (OGC) to determine whether it falls within the scope of the Congressional Review Act (CRA). During the course of this review, OGC considers whether any endorsement or acceptance of a TR by the NRC amounts to a rule as defined in the CRA. If this initial review concludes that the SE, with its accompanying TR, may be a rule, the NRC will forward the package to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for further review and consideration. Any review by OMB would impact the schedule for the final issuance of the SE.

J. Head

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Please contact Joseph A. Golla at (301) 415-1002, if you have any questions on this subject.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Kevin Hsueh, Chief
Licensing Processes Branch
Division of Policy and Rulemaking
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

Project No. 712

J. Head

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Please contact Joseph A. Golla at (301) 415-1002, if you have any questions on this subject.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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Project No. 712

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***via email**

NRR-106

OFFICE	NRR/DPR/PLPB	NRR/DPR/PLPB*	NRR/DSS	NRR/DSS/SNPB	NRR/DPR/PLPB
NAME	JGolla	DHarrison	PClifford	JDean	KHsueh
DATE	6/20/2016	6/16/16	6/21/2016	6/22/2016	6/28/2016

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GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas

Project No. 710

cc:

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