

August 30, 2016

Mr. Jerald G. Head
Senior Vice President, Regulatory Affairs
GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy
3901 Castle Hayne Road MC A-18
Wilmington, NC 28401

SUBJECT: GE HITACHI NUCLEAR ENERGY – UNITED STATES ADVANCED BOILING
WATER REACTOR DESIGN CERTIFICATION RENEWAL REVIEW
SCHEDULE

Dear Mr. Head:

In a letter dated December 7, 2010, you submitted a Design Certification (DC) Renewal application for the U.S. Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (ABWR) pursuant to the requirements of Subpart B, "Standard Design Certifications," of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 52, "Licenses, Certifications, and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants." On March 24, 2011, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff met with GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy (GEH) staff to discuss your renewal application as well as Draft NRC Views on Application Content and Draft Review Guidelines (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML103140050). The NRC staff, in a letter dated July 20, 2012 (ADAMS Accession No. ML12125A385), identified certain design changes that the staff believed should be considered for inclusion in your application. Subsequent to the July letter, we discussed these items with your staff in public meetings, and received responses to NRC staff's requests for additional information (RAIs) and letters transmitting information to address the items identified in the July letter. In addition, you submitted letters identifying other items that resulted in changes to your renewal application. In February 19, 2016, you submitted a revision to the application to incorporate proposed changes identified in letters submitted to the NRC prior to this revision. Therefore, the NRC staff considers the scope of your application to be sufficiently defined to issue a review schedule. The milestones for the four phases of the review are provided in the enclosure to this letter and are based on resolving all open items by January, 2017.

In addition, in order for the NRC to fulfill its obligations under the National Environmental Policy Act, the agency will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) for the renewal application. The EA will be an enclosure to the rulemaking package and will align with the rulemaking preparation schedule.

J. Head

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The schedule assumes technically complete responses within the stipulated timeframe in the letter transmitting the NRC's RAIs. For any RAIs that cannot be answered within the specified timeframe, it is expected that a date for receipt of this information will be provided to the NRC staff within 30 days of receiving the RAIs so that an assessment of how this information will impact the published schedule can be evaluated. In addition, any new open items and significant changes or additions to your application or supporting documentation could impact scheduled completion dates.

If you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, please contact the lead project manager, Adrian Muñiz at 301-415-4093 or via e-mail address at Adrian.Muniz@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Francis M. Akstulewicz, Director
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket No.: 52-045

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/encl.: See next page

J. Head

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ADAMS Accession No: ML16209A316

NRO-002

OFFICE	PM:DNRL/LB3	LA:DNRL/LB3	BC:DNRL/LB3
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DATE	8/24/16	7/27/2016	8/24/16
OFFICE	PM:DNRL/EPB	BC:DNRL/EPB	D:DNRL
NAME	JFringer	AFetter	FAkstulewicz
DATE	8/23/16	8/23/16	8/30/16

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**GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy – US ABWR Design Certification Renewal Application
Review Milestones**

Key Safety Review Milestones	Current Completion Date Target - T
Phase 1 – Requests for Additional Information (RAIs) and Supplemental RAIs	10/2016 – T
Phase 2 – Safety Evaluation Report (SER) without Open Items	7/2017 – T
Phase 3 – Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) Review of SER without Open Items	11/2017 – T
Phase 4 – Final SER	3/2018 – T

Enclosure

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