

August 30, 2016

Dr. Dennis C. Bley, Chairman
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO JULY 19, 2016, LETTER FROM THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS REGARDING WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC COMPANY TOPICAL REPORT WCAP-16996-P, VOLUMES I, II, AND III, REVISION 1, "REALISTIC LOCA EVALUATION METHODOLOGY APPLIED TO THE FULL SPECTRUM OF BREAK SIZES (FULL SPECTRUM™ LOCA METHODOLOGY)"

Dear Dr. Bley:

By letter dated July 19, 2016 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML16201A103), the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) reported on its review of the staff's safety evaluation (SE) on Westinghouse Electric Company (Westinghouse) Topical Report (TR) WCAP-16996-P, Volumes I, II, and III, Revision 1, "Realistic LOCA [Loss-of-Coolant Accident] Evaluation Methodology Applied to the Full Spectrum of Break Sizes (FULL SPECTRUM™ LOCA Methodology)." The staff appreciates the insights provided by the ACRS in the letter and the substantial amount of time the ACRS has devoted to the staff's SE on Westinghouse TR WCAP-16996-P, Volumes I, II, and III.

In its letter, the ACRS concluded that the Westinghouse methodology described in WCAP-16996-P is acceptable for meeting the regulatory requirements of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Section 50.46, "Acceptance criteria for emergency core cooling systems for light-water nuclear power reactors," provided the methodology adheres to the staff's limitations and conditions in the draft final SE and the additional constraint discussed in the conclusion and recommendation section of the letter.

The staff modified the SE to address the ACRS recommendation prior to issuance of the final SE. Specifically, the staff updated the draft final SE limitations and conditions to identify clearly all the parameters and assumptions that need to be reviewed in future submittals. In addition, the limitations and conditions are now referenced to the appropriate sections of WCAP-16996-P, Volume I, II, and III, Revision 1, and the corresponding Westinghouse licensing letters.

D. Bley

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The staff appreciates ACRS's efforts on this matter. We thank the ACRS for its valuable input and look forward to working with the Committee in the future.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Victor M. McCree
Executive Director
for Operations

cc: Chairman Burns
Commissioner Svinicki
Commissioner Baran
SECY

The staff appreciates ACRS's efforts on this matter. We thank the ACRS for its valuable input and look forward to working with the Committee in the future.

Sincerely,

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Victor M. McCree
Executive Director
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