

September 2, 2016

Mr. Gary Peters, Director
Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
AREVA Inc.
3315 Old Forest Road
Lynchburg, VA 24501

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE FOR REVIEW OF AREVA INC. TOPICAL REPORT
BAW-10247P-A, SUPPLEMENT 2P, REVISION 0, "REALISTIC
THERMAL-MECHANICAL FUEL ROD METHODOLOGY FOR BOILING WATER
REACTORS SUPPLEMENT 2: MECHANICAL METHODS" (TAC NO. MF7708)

Dear Mr. Peters:

By letter dated April 29, 2016 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession Number ML16124B057), AREVA Inc. (AREVA) submitted for U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff review Topical Report (TR) BAW-10247P-A, Supplement 2P, Revision 0, "Realistic Thermal-Mechanical Fuel Rod Methodology for Boiling Water Reactors Supplement 2: Mechanical Methods." The NRC staff has performed an acceptance review of TR BAW-10247P-A, Supplement 2P, Revision 0. We have found that the material presented is sufficient to begin our comprehensive review. NRC staff expects to issue its request for additional information by March 10, 2017, and issue its draft safety evaluation (SE) by September 29, 2017. This schedule information takes into consideration 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. NRC staff estimates that the review will require approximately 200 staff hours, including project management and contractor time. The review schedule milestones and estimated review costs were discussed and agreed upon in a telephone conference between AREVA Product Licensing Manager, Alan Meginnis, and NRC staff on August 16, 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 topical reports, the SE will be reviewed by 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, 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 issuance of the final SE.

G. Peters

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If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact Jonathan G. Rowley at (301) 415-4053.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Project No. 728

G. Peters

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If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact Jonathan G. Rowley at (301) 415-4053.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Project No. 728

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NRR-106

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NAME	JRowley	DHarrison (ELee for)	JDean	KHsueh
DATE	08/19/2016	08/18/2016	08/31/2016	09/02/2016

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