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SUBJECT: Requests NRC review of topical rept WPPSS-FTS-127, Rev.0, "Qualification of Core Physics Methods for BWR Design..."

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March 29, 1990
G02-90-061

Docket No. 50-397
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, D. C. 20555

Gentlemen:

Subject: NUCLEAR PLANT NO. 2, OPERATING LICENSE NPF-21
NOTIFICATION OF REQUEST FOR NRC REVIEW OF TOPICAL REPORT WPPSS-FTS-127, "QUALIFICATION OF CORE PHYSICS METHODS FOR BWR DESIGN AND ANALYSIS"

The Supply System has been making preparations over the past several years in anticipation of performing our own reload analysis. One of the major steps in that process is to receive approval from the NRC for the methodology we intend to utilize, including specific topical reports. The purpose of this letter is to request the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's review and approval of Topical Report WPPSS-FTS-127, Rev. 0, "Qualification of Core Physics Methods for BWR Design and Analysis". This report describes the methodology intended for use in WNP-2. In addition, our schedule for implementing the reload analysis methodology is provided.

Qualification of the CASMO-2 lattice physics and SIMULATE-E three-dimensional nodal core simulator programs for the steady state reload and core design and analysis of BWRs is described in this report. CASMO-2 was developed by Studsvik Energiteknik AB to perform lattice physics analysis. SIMULATE-E is a part of the Electric Power Research Institute, EPRI, Advanced Recycle Methodology Program (ARMP) developed for steady state analyses of light water reactors. Brief descriptions of the CASMO-2 and SIMULATE-E programs are presented in this report along with comparisons to measurements from operating BWRs and uniform lattice criticals from Westinghouse TRX and ESADA facilities. These programs and associated methodologies will be used by the Supply System for plant operations support, various fuel cycle and safety related calculations, and to provide necessary neutronics input data to transient analyses for WNP-2.

A001 1/18 Add: NRR Poteat, C. 4cr Encl
NRR Wilson, V. 1 1
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The physics topical report is a first of a series of three reports that will address the methodology under development by the Supply System. The second of these reports entitled "BWR Transient Analysis Model," is scheduled for submittal to the NRC for review in July 1990. The third and final report entitled "Applications of Steady State and Transient Analysis to Reload Licensing Evaluation," is scheduled for submittal to the NRC for review in January 1991. It is intended that the models and methods described in these topicals will be utilized for designing and analyzing (RSE) the reload which will begin operation in June of 1992. Figure 1 shows a more detailed schedule of the activities involved in implementing the Supply System methods for Cycle 8.

Subsequent to the NRC's approval of the above topical reports, and prior to their use, Technical Specification changes to approve Supply System methodology according to Generic Letter 88-16, is scheduled for January 1992. This would allow approximately 75 days for review and approval of the Technical Specification changes. Please advise us at your earliest convenience if the schedules described herein are not viable from the NRC's scheduling viewpoint.

Very Truly Yours,

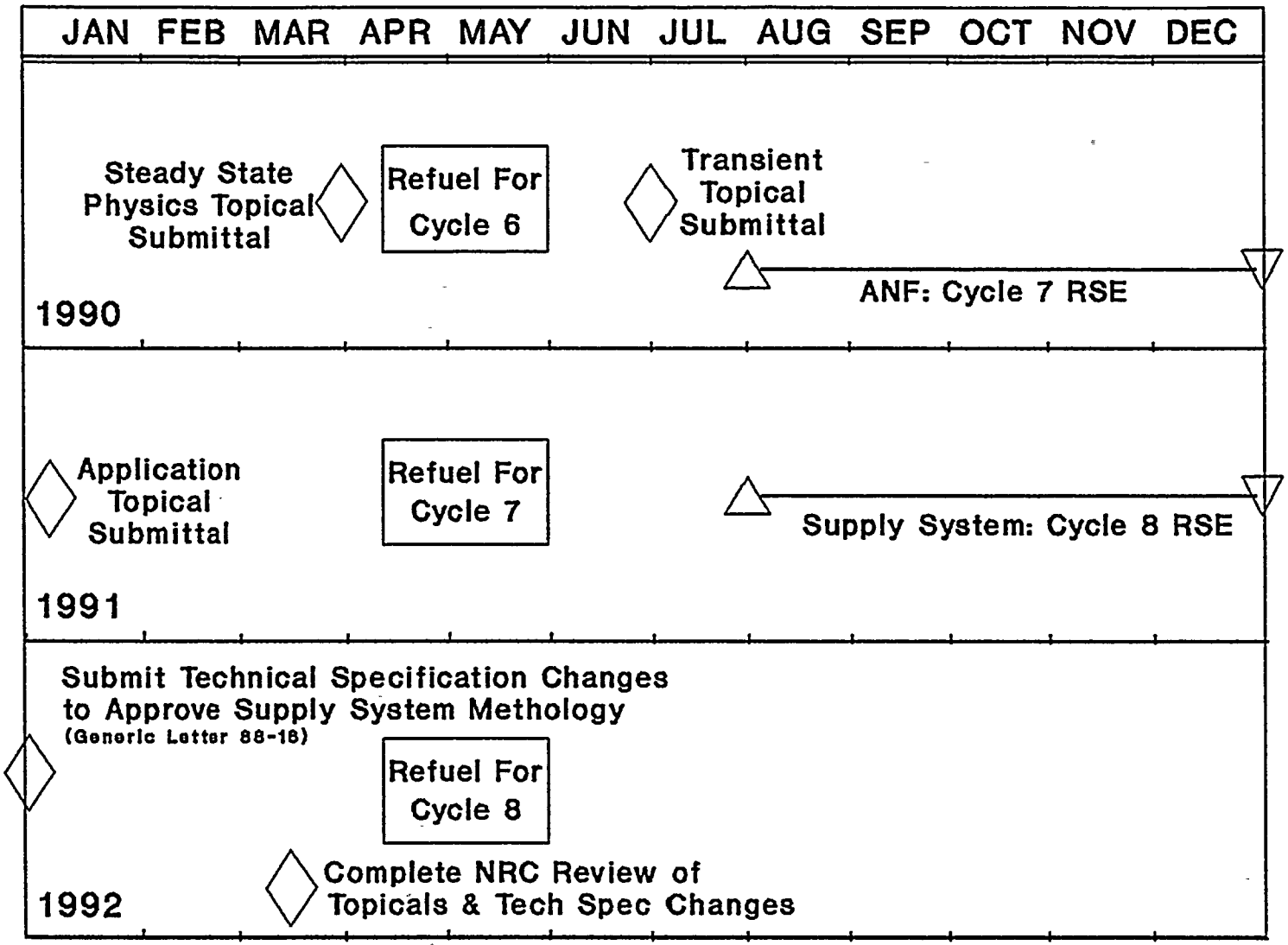
GC Sorensen

G. C. Sorensen
Manager, Regulatory Programs

BMM:bw

Attachment: Figure 1

Enclosure: Qualification of Core Physics Methods
For BWR Design and Analysis (18 copies)



SUPPLY SYSTEM CORE DESIGN MILESTONES

FIGURE 1