

## UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

December 20, 2019

Camille Zozula, Manager Infrastructure & Facilities Licensing Westinghouse Electric Company LLC 1000 Westinghouse Drive Cranberry Township, Pennsylvania 16066

Dear Ms. Zozula:

I am responding to the <u>petition for rulemaking</u> (PRM) dated November 4, 1999 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. <u>ML003683190</u>), that was submitted on behalf of Westinghouse Electric Company LLC (Westinghouse), to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The petition was docketed as PRM-50-69 and requested that the NRC amend its regulations at Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 50, Appendix G – Fracture Toughness Requirements. Specifically, the PRM requested the removal of footnotes (2) and (6) from Table 1 – Pressure and Temperature Requirements for the Reactor Pressure Vessel. This would eliminate minimum temperature requirements for the closure head flange and vessel flange regions.

In response to this petition, the NRC initially determined that the issues raised in PRM-50-69 would be considered in the ongoing rulemaking effort entitled, "Modifications to Pressure-Temperature Limits" (Appendix G rulemaking) and published a *Federal Register* notice (74 FR 4911) on January 28, 2009 to this effect. The notice also stated that if the ongoing work to establish a technical basis for the rulemaking did not support the issuance of a proposed rule, the NRC would issue a supplemental *Federal Register* notice that addressed why the NRC did not adopt the petitioner's requested rulemaking changes. In a January 2, 2009, letter (ADAMS Accession No. ML083040153), the NRC notified Westinghouse of this action.

In staff requirements memorandum (SRM)-SECY-16-0009, "Staff Requirements – SECY-16-0009 – Recommendations Resulting from the Integrated Prioritization and Re-Baselining of Agency Activities" (April 13, 2016) (ADAMS Accession No. ML16104A158), the Commission approved the staff's recommendation to discontinue the Appendix G rulemaking effort. As explained in SECY-16-0009, "Recommendations Resulting from the Integrated Prioritization and Re-Baselining of Agency Activities" (January 31, 2016) (ADAMS Accession No. ML16028A208), the NRC determined that there is insufficient information to revise 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix G in light of the NRC's relevant past decisions and current practices.

Therefore, the Commission is denying PRM-50-69 under 10 CFR 2.803(i)(2). For additional information, please see the enclosed *Federal Register* notice.

Sincerely,

Annette L. Vietti-Cook

Enclosure:

Federal Register Notice