



Electric Power
Research Institute

Leadership in Science and Technology

December 31, 1993

Dr. Thomas Murley
Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Dr. Murley;

Enclosed for NRC review is the report, "Technical Aspects of Advanced Light Water Reactor Emergency Planning", dated December 1993.

On many occasions, we have communicated to the NRC our very strong interest in establishing for the ALWR a sound technical basis for updating emergency planning requirements and our conviction that the ALWR designs being developed are consistent with that objective. On May 3, 1993 we submitted to the NRC the ALWR emergency planning design criteria and associated methodology, as a revision to Volume III of the Utility Requirements Document (URD). The enclosed report complements those criteria and methodology with technical basis information and supporting detail.

As a companion effort to the development of this technical basis, we have also been considering the policy aspects of updated emergency planning. Our ideas on that topic have been assembled in preliminary form and will be provided to NUMARC shortly. From that point, NUMARC will have the lead for coordinating industry review, deliberation and subsequent action, as deemed appropriate, for the policy aspects.

We request NRC's review of the technical report as a way to secure the necessary confidence among plant design teams and prospective ALWR owners and licensees that properly designed plants for the next generation will, in fact, have the opportunity to utilize an updated, technically sound emergency planning approach. As soon as your staff conducts its initial familiarization review of the report, we suggest a meeting to discuss scope, timing and output product from your detailed review.

As always, we appreciate NRC's active involvement in the industry's ALWR initiatives. Please call if you have any question about this submittal.

Very Truly Yours

R. Patrick McDonald
USC Chairman
PM/L1/jt

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