

Dr. J. Ernest Wilkins, Jr., Chairman
 Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 Washington, DC 20555

January 28, 1994

Dear Dr. Wilkins:

SUBJECT: ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE (EPRI) ADVANCED LIGHT WATER REACTOR UTILITY REQUIREMENTS DOCUMENT (URD), VOLUME III, PASSIVE PLANTS

This letter is in response to the letter you sent the Chairman on December 23, 1993, concerning the staff's final safety evaluation report (FSER) on EPRI's Requirements Document for passive plant designs.

In your letter, you stated that you believed that the staff had conducted a thorough and comprehensive review and that you were in general agreement with the staff's safety evaluation and its conclusion regarding Volume III that meeting the URD requirements could produce a reactor design that would not conflict with regulatory guidelines that would be responsive to various policy statements. You also noted disappointment in the limited technical basis provided for several of the requirements relating to severe accidents - in particular hydrogen control, melt spreading and coolability, and fuel-coolant interaction (steam explosion). Finally, you stated that you believed that additional consideration should have been given to general design criteria for the containment to withstand severe accident loads.

The staff understands that EPRI is considering your comments regarding requirements for severe accidents and containment loads. Regardless of whether EPRI submits additional technical bases for its requirements in those areas, I can assure you that the staff will review individual applications for final design approval/design certification to ensure that the proposed vendor design meets all regulatory requirements.

002092

Sincerely, *Original signed by*
 James M. Taylor
 James M. Taylor
 Executive Director
 for Operations

*01/18/94 (ACRS)
 KR-22 (PRT)
 KR-25 (Advanced
 Reactor Program)
 KR-14 (NRC)*

cc: Chairman Selin
 Commissioner Rogers
 Commissioner Remick
 Commissioner de Planque
 SECY

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 PDR ACRS
 GENERAL PDR

OFC	PM:PDST*	LA:PDST*	TECH ED*	SC:PDST*
NAME	JHWilson:tz	PShea <i>PS</i>	RSanders	RArchitzel
DATE	01/25/94	01/25/94	01/25/94	01/25/94

JRoe, 12G18
 OGC
 OPA
 OCA
 NRR Mailroom, #9642

OFC	D:PDST*	ADAR:NRR*	ADT:NRR*	D:NRR*	EDO
NAME	RBorchardt	DCrutchfield	WRussell	TMurley	JTaylor
DATE	01/25/94	01/25/94	01/25/94	01/28/94	01/ /94

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY: GT009642.JHW

* SEE PREVIOUS CONCURRENCE

NRC FILE CENTER COPY

JTB

*Borchardt
Jim Wilson*
ACTION

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 01/29/94

EDO CONTROL: 0009642
DOC DT: 12/23/93
FINAL REPLY:

J. Ernest Wilkins, Jr.
ACRS

Received 12/29/93

TO:
Chairman Selin

FOR SIGNATURE OF : ** GRN **
Executive Director

CRC NO:

DESC: ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE ADVANCED LIGHT
WATER REACTOR UTILITY REQUIREMENTS DOCUMENT --
VOLUME III PASSIVE PLANTS

ROUTING:
Taylor
Sniezek
Thompson
Blaha
Beckjord, RES
Bernero, NMSS
Jordan, AEOD
x Cyr, OGC
Mat Taylor

DATE: 12/29/93

ASSIGNED TO: NRR CONTACT: Murley

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

Preapre response to ACRS for EDO's signature.
Put Commissioners and SECY on cc (shown on
original) for reply.

*05-13-7 (ACRS)
x RD-2 (CPRT)
x RD-25 (Advanced Reactor)
Prayer
x 05-12-6 (12/29/93)*

Use Subject Line in Response.

NRR RECEIVED: DECEMBER 29, 1993
NRR ACTION: DAR:CRUTCHFIELD
NRR ROUTING: TEM/FJM
JC
WR
FG
NRR MAIL ROOM

ACTION
DUE TO NRR DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
BY *Jan. 25, 1994*