

MAR 10 1983

Docket No. STN 50-470

Mr. A. E. Scherer, Director  
Nuclear Licensing  
Combustion Engineering, Inc.  
1000 Prospect Hill Road  
Windsor, Connecticut 06095

Dear Mr. Scherer:

I am writing in response to your letter of January 27, 1983, in which you expressed some concern about the schedule for the CESSAR FDA. I want to emphasize that I share your interest in avoiding unnecessary and unwarranted delays. However, as discussed below, I do not believe that it is accurate to characterize the CESSAR schedule change strictly as "administrative".

As you are aware, we have reviewed the CESSAR and Palo Verde applications in parallel. This arrangement provided the means to meet an aggressive review schedule; but more importantly, it provided a solid basis for review of the unique problems of interface requirements posed by CESSAR. Because of this concurrent review, our conclusions concerning the adequacy and completeness of the CESSAR interface requirements could be immediately verified by direct feedback from the Palo Verde review. The confidence and experience gained in this manner should significantly enhance the efficiency of future standard plant reviews such as WNP-3. To disassociate CESSAR and Palo Verde at this time, while the reviews are still in progress, would be inconsistent with these goals.

In your letter, you also stated that "...with appropriate attention by the Staff, these issues (in the SER) can be closed out in March 1983" and "...it is both possible and desirable for the NRC to issue the CESSAR-FDA by March 1983." The CESSAR FDA will be issued on a schedule consistent with the satisfactory resolution of the remaining issues. We will continue to work closely with your staff to ensure that these issues receive appropriate attention and are resolved in a timely fashion. The schedule for accomplishing this will, in large measure, depend upon the responsiveness of your staff in providing satisfactory replies to the requests for information you now hold.

As you know, the issues still active for CESSAR are: (1) environmental qualification; (2) CPC software; (3) ICC instrumentation; (4) preoperational vibration testing program; (5) reactor cutback system; (6) shutdown cooling analysis; (7) boron mixing testing; (8) containment sprays; (9) small steam

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line break analysis; (10) feedwater line break analysis; (11) RCP shaft seizure analysis; (12) steam generator tube rupture analysis; and (13) PORV's. Each of these issues, with the possible exception of Issue 4, requires additional input from CE before they can be closed. Many require only CE's formal documentation of commitments and draft submittals. I understand this is primarily administrative and that all of these should be completed this month. However, there are some items that require additional analyses by CE. In this latter category, I am particularly concerned about the schedule for your submittals on the outstanding Chapter 15 accident analyses. We have issued questions on the small steam line break and feedwater line break analyses; CE has submitted only a draft of the RCP shaft seizure analysis; and CE has not provided, in any form, the additional steam generator tube rupture analysis we requested.

Your staff has indicated that the resolution of some of these issues can be expedited by face-to-face meetings in advance of your formal submittals. I strongly endorse this idea. Please contact Gary Meyer (301-492-9797), the CESSAR Project Manager, who will coordinate each meeting with the appropriate technical branches.

Sincerely,

Original signed by  
Darrell G. Eisenhut

Darrell G. Eisenhut, Director  
Division of Licensing

cc: See next page

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