

June 6, 1994

Docket No. 52-003

Mr. Nicholas J. Liparulo
Nuclear Safety and Regulatory Activities
Westinghouse Electric Corporation
P.O. Box 355
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15230

Dear Mr. Liparulo:

SUBJECT: REVISED REVIEW SCHEDULE FOR THE AP600

During the May 25, 1994, meeting with the staff, Westinghouse proposed ways to improve the review schedule of the AP600 design certification application as a follow-up to the recent senior management meeting at OSU. Westinghouse has continued to make good progress in the AP600 design certification program. Matrix testing has been initiated in the CMT, SPES-2, and OSU facilities, and completed in the large scale containment facility. The staff has nearly completed sending its requests for additional information, and Westinghouse has provided responses to approximately 75 percent of the requests for additional information generally ahead of schedule. The implementation of the resolution of the issue on regulatory treatment of non-safety-related systems for the AP600 has been submitted and the review is underway.

As discussed during the May 25, 1994, meeting, Westinghouse has reviewed the process presented by the staff in SECY-94-117, and proposes to optimize the Westinghouse activities that the staff considers to be on the critical path for our review. Westinghouse proposed to expedite submittal of certain information, including code-related work and the turn-around time for responding to DSER open issues, and requested the staff to consider reducing the time between certain FDA- and Rule-development milestones that are currently scheduled to be performed serially. Westinghouse indicated that it felt that an improvement of seven to eight months is possible over the AP600 design certification review schedule presented in SECY-94-117. The staff agrees with Westinghouse that there is room for improvement in the AP600 schedule. The staff is working toward a more aggressive review schedule, but it needs to evaluate Westinghouse's formal recommendations before it can determine the extent of improvement that can be obtained for the AP600 review schedule.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Dennis M. Crutchfield, Associate Director
for Advanced Reactors and License Renewal
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