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NS-NRC-91-3593
NPAP-APSL-91-0147

May 23, 1991

Dr. Thomas Murley, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Proj 676

SUBJECT: AP600 Certification Program Description

Dear Dr. Murley:

The attached document, WCAP-12965, "AP600 Certification Program Description", is being transmitted to you for your information and use in planning your program for the Design Certification review of the AP600.

The AP600 Certification Program Description addresses the major technical issues and dates when feedback is required on their resolution, nonpolicy issues, and areas where the AP600 program would benefit from early NRC Staff interaction. The schedule which Westinghouse has developed for the AP600 review, design approval and certification is also identified. This description is intended to enhance the certainty and predictability of the certification assessment by providing for early consideration of all safety issues in the design development program. Timely feedback on AP600 issues is essential to avoid costly rework on the AP600 design and testing program.

Unresolved technical issues are being addressed through the ALWR Utility Requirements Document (URD) review. In the March 1, 1991 letter from Mr. Sugnet (EPRI) to Mr. Crutchfield (NRC), EPRI issued the list of technical issues central to the design of the passive plants. Westinghouse is supporting resolution of these issues, and their final disposition will be incorporated into the AP600 design thereby minimizing unresolved technical issues prior to the AP600 Standard Safety Analysis Report (SSAR) submittal in June, 1992.

Additionally, Westinghouse has been interacting with the staff to discuss the AP600 testing and design so that the staff can determine their research needs to support the design review.

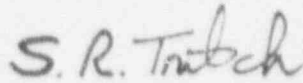
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We look forward to continued interaction with you and the Staff to reach agreement on unresolved issues and complete the design certification for the AP600.

Mr. Brian A. McIntyre, Manager, Advanced Plant Safety & Licensing will be in contact with Mr. Crutchfield to arrange for discussions on the topics in this report. Please contact Mr. McIntyre if you have any questions on this transmittal.

Sincerely yours,



S. R. Tritch, Manager
Nuclear Safety Department

/nja

cc:	D. Crutchfield	NRC
	D. J. McGoff	DOE
	L. Donatelli	NRC (20 copies)