



General Electric Company
175 Cortland Avenue, New York, NY 10017

February 11, 1992

MFN No. 036-92
Docket No. STN 50-605
EEN-9222

Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Attention: Robert C. Pierson, Director
Standardization and Non-Power Reactor Project Directorate

Subject: **GE Responses to Performance and Quality Evaluation Branch Open
Items on ABWR SSAR Chapter 14**

Reference: Letter from D. M. Crutchfield (NRC) to P. W. Marriott (GE), same
subject, dated January 22, 1992, MFN 021-92

It remains GE's plan to submit by March 5, 1992 the outstanding information necessary to obtain closure of ABWR SSAR Chapter 14 open items as identified in the staff's Draft Safety Evaluation Report (DSER) dated November 5, 1991. As discussed below, we believe this is supportive of the staff's schedule for preparation of the Final Safety Evaluation Report (FSER).

As you indicated in your letter of January 22, 1992 a meeting was held in May 1991 at which the pending DSER open items were discussed. The result of that meeting was agreement between GE and the staff (and its consultant) on specific resolutions and/or acceptable commitments regarding the necessary actions to close all identified items. As stated, via letter dated May 20, 1991 GE provided responses to a portion of the identified items consistent with the prior agreements reached. Subsequently, the SSAR was formally amended to incorporate the necessary revisions for these items via Amendment 18, dated October 11, 1991. It was GE's expectation that such revisions would result in closure of the associated open items.

The November 1991 DSER acknowledged that acceptable resolutions had been reached, and that the necessary revisions to the SSAR had been made, for those items addressed in our May and October submittals. However, it also characterized the related items as open. We assume that the FSER will reflect acceptable closure of these particular items based on the information already provided. As such, the actual number of open items awaiting further information is substantially less than that stated in the DSER. Further, we believe that the information to be provided for formal closure of a portion of the remaining items is strictly confirmatory in nature. Thus, it would appear that preparation of the FSER for Chapter 14 of the ABWR SSAR is not highly dependent

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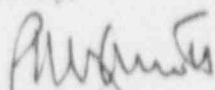
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on information yet to be provided, since only a limited number of items await closure details. We realize that, like GE, the NRC is operating under very tight schedule constraints for completing the ABWR review. Consequently, we are making every effort to respond to NRC requests in a timely manner. In turn, we encourage the NRC staff to consider approaches for handling the anticipated information that would allow expeditious preparation of the FSER. It will require such efforts on both our parts to assure that schedules are not adversely impacted.

Sincerely,



P.W. Marriott, Manager
Regulatory and Analysis Services
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cc: F. A. Ross (DOE)
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