

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

52-001

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20656

September 8, 1992

Mr. David A. Ward, Chairman Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Ward:

The staff has received your letter of August 12, 1992, on the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) plans for reviewing GE's application for certification of the Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (ABWR) design and the NRC staff's final safety evaluation report (FSER).

The staff plans to issue a draft FSER within the next few weeks and will provide a copy to the ACRS for its review. All open items (about 330) and confirmatory items (about 210) will be appropriately characterized to enable the ACRS to begin its review. The staff will address the continuing efforts to resolve these issues with the ACRS during scheduled meetings. In a separate action, the staff plans to provide its draft evaluations on the DAC for the man-machine interface and the control and protection systems by early September 1992.

Subsequently, the starf plans to issue the FSER and issue a final design approval (FDA) for the ABWR after all open and confirmatory issues are resolved and after GE revises its standard safety analysis report (SSAR) for internal consistency and to reflect agreed upon commitments. The staff expects that GE will require several months to adequately address these concerns and update the SSAR. The subsequent issuance of the FSER is dependent on the timeliness and quality of the GE responses to the open and confirmatory issues. The staff does not plan to issue supplements to the FSER.

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We understand that any significant delay in providing necessary information to support the ACRS review will delay the completion of your review. We have noted your schedule for full committee and subcommittee meetings to support the review of the GE ABWR design and will continue to work closely with the ACRS to ensure that each of these meetings are adequately supported.

Sincerely,

Origina W

James M. Taylor Executive Director for Operations

The Chairman cc: Commissioner Rogers Commissioner Curtiss Commissioner Remick Commissioner de Planque SECY

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WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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FROM:

DUE: 09/03/92

EDO CONTROL: 0007993

DOC DT: 08/12/92

FINAL REPLY:

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TO:

James M. Taylor

David A. Ward

FOR SIGNATURE OF:

** GRN **

CRC NO:

Executive Director

DESC:

ACRS PLAN FOR REVIEWING THE APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION OF THE GE ADVANCED BOILING WATER REACTOR DESIGN

DATE: 08/14/92

AGSIGNED TO: CONTACT:

Murley

ROUTING:

Taylor Sniezek Thompson Blaha Mat Taylor Bernero, NMSS Beckjord, RES Jordan, AEOD Scinto, JGC

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS: PREPARE RESPONSE TO ACRS FOR EDD'S SIGNATURE. PUT COMMISSIONERS AND SECY ON CC (SHOWN ON ORIGINAL) FOR REPLY.

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ACTION BY 8/28/92