

52-601

September 11, 1992

Mr. Patrick W. Marriott, Manager
Licensing & Consulting Services
GE Nuclear Energy
175 Curtner Avenue
San Jose, California 95125

Dear Mr. Marriott:

SUBJECT: STAFF GUIDANCE FOR THE USE OF A SINGLE-EARTHQUAKE DESIGN FOR SYSTEMS, STRUCTURES, AND COMPONENTS IN THE ADVANCED BOILING WATER REACTOR (ABWR)

Recently, GE Nuclear Energy (GE) indicated that it is planning to take advantage of the option to decouple the level of the operating basis earthquake (OBE) ground motion from that of the safe-shutdown earthquake (SSE) in its design of systems, structures, and components (SSCs) in the ABWR. In a meeting held on August 26, 1992, in San Jose, California, with GE staff and representatives from the Electric Power Research Institute, the staff provided preliminary guidance to GE concerning what types of analyses and information would be required in the Standard Safety Analysis Report (SSAR) for the staff to approve design of SSCs without the OBE.

During the meeting several recommendations were made by the participants. The staff has evaluated them and has incorporated them into the enclosed guidance document to be used by GE to conduct the set of required analyses, and to amend the SSAR to reflect decoupling of the OBE. Please note that it has been prepared in safety evaluation report (SER) format for ultimate use in the preparation of the final SER for the ABWR on this subject.

It is expected that GE will begin its work on this design basis change and will be prepared to discuss this subject at the next management meeting scheduled for the week of October 5, 1992. If you have any immediate questions, please contact Chet Poslusny on (301) 504-1132.

Sincerely,

(Original signed by)
Robert C. Pierson, Director
Standardization Project Directorate
Associate Directorate for Advanced Reactors
and License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

September 11, 1992

Docket No. 52-001

Mr. Patrick W. Marriott, Manager
Licensing & Consulting Services
GE Nuclear Energy
175 Curtner Avenue
San Jose, California 95125

Dear Mr. Marriott:

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. C. Pierson".

Robert C. Pierson, Director
Standardization Project Directorate
Associate Directorate for Advanced Reactors
and License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

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