POLICY ISSUE
(Information)

September 28, 1992

SECY-92-331

For: The Commissioners

From: James M. Taylor
Executive Director for Operations

Subject: DRAFT SAFETY EVALUATION REPORT ON THE ABB-COMBUSTION ENGINEERING (ABB-CE) STANDARD SAFETY ANALYSIS REPORT FOR DESIGN CERTIFICATION (CESSAR-DC)

Purpose: To inform the Commission of the staff's intent to issue the draft safety evaluation report (DSER, NUREG-1462) on the ABB-CE System 80+ design. The DSER discusses the results of the staff's review of ABB-CE's CESSAR-DC.

Background: On March 30, 1989, ABB-CE submitted to the Commission its initial application for certification of the System 80+ design, in accordance with Appendix O to 10 CFR Part 50. This application consisted of 18 chapters and 2 appendices addressing probabilistic risk assessment (PRA) and unresolved and generic safety issues (USIs/GSIs). The staff reviewed this application using the procedures specified in 10 CFR Part 52 Subpart B, "Standard Design Certifications."

The Commission has issued guidance for the staff to follow in reviewing applications for design certification.

NOTE: TO BE MADE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE IN 3 WORKING DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THIS PAPER

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Discussion: The staff is reviewing the CESSAR-DC in accordance with the applicable regulatory standards of NUREG-0800, "Standard Review Plan" (SRP), and in accordance with Regulatory Guide 1.70, "Standard Format and Content of Safety Analysis Reports for Nuclear Power Plants (LWR Edition)."

The staff is also using the guidance from the staff requirements memoranda (SRM) for each of the Commission's policy papers listed in Chapter 1 of the DSER. In these Commission papers, the staff addressed the policy issues that, for evolutionary light water reactors, modify SRP review criteria or address issues, such as severe accidents, that are beyond the scope of the SRP.

In each section of the DSER in which the staff found the CESSAR to be acceptable, according to the review criteria and guidance discussed herein, the staff indicates that, except as stated below, ABB-CE has submitted a sufficient amount of design detail for the NRC to make its safety finding. In areas such as radiation protection and airborne concentrations, digital computer-based instrumentation and control systems, detailed piping design, and control room human factors engineering, the staff is reviewing the design acceptance criteria (DAC), as described in SECY-92-196, "Development of Design Acceptance Criteria (DAC) for the Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (ABWR)," and SECY-92-299, "Development of Design Acceptance Criteria (DAC) for the Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (ABWR) in the Areas of Instrumentation and Controls (I&C) and Control Room Design," to determine if they are acceptable. The staff will evaluate three areas not addressed in this DSER in the final safety evaluation report (FSER): (1) DAC and ITAAC, (2) interface requirements, and (3) severe accident closure.

Conclusions: The staff concludes that the enclosed DSER contains no new policy issues. The staff will issue the DSER to ABB-CE to inform it of the staff's current findings, including outstanding technical issues that should be resolved. In the FSER for the System 80+, the staff will indicate the resolutions of issues.

The staff will issue the enclosed DSER and will place a copy in the NRC Public Document Room in 3 days of the date of this paper.

Coordination: The Office of General Counsel has reviewed this paper and has no legal objection.

James M. Taylor
Executive Director
for Operations

Enclosure(s):
DSER Chapters
(Commissioners, SECY,
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