



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 25, 1996

Mr. Joseph Quirk
GE Nuclear Energy
175 Curtner Avenue, MC-782
San Jose, California 95125

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF CHANGES TO DESIGN DOCUMENTATION FOR THE ADVANCED BOILING WATER REACTOR (ABWR)

Dear Mr. Quirk:

The staff has reviewed the GE Nuclear Energy (GE) ABWR Standard Safety Analysis Report (SSAR) Amendment 36 and Certified Design Material (CDM) Revision 7 dated March 22, 1996, and comments are provided in Enclosure 1. The staff is also reviewing your proposed changes to the ABWR Design Control Document (DCD) resulting from design errors or design improvements identified in your April 16, 1996 submittal and will provide comments in the near future. The staff also requires a description of the corrective actions that you have taken to ensure that other design errors are not present in the ABWR DCD.

Your April 16, 1996, letter referred to additional design changes that have been identified as a result of First-of-a-Kind-Engineering (FOAKE) that you anticipate will be made by future applicants who reference the design certification rule. The staff understands that the FOAKE program is nearing completion and recommends that you submit those changes to the DCD as soon as possible, thereby resolving those issues for future applicants.

In addition, any changes to the DCD Introduction that are required for conformance with the final rule as a result of Commission consideration must be submitted for NRC review prior to issuance of the final rule. The staff is willing to review a draft revision to the DCD Introduction to facilitate this process. Further, amendments to the SSAR and CDM made for consistency with the DCD should be submitted with the DCD revisions. The staff's evaluation of the changes to the ABWR design documentation will be published in a supplement to the final safety evaluation report (NUREG-1503).

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Mr. Joseph Quirk

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April 25, 1996

Finally, you are reminded that in accordance with 10 CFR 50.4, correspondence should be addressed to the NRC's Document Control Desk. This ensures proper docketing and distribution of the information, and facilitates the review process. Please contact Tom Boyce at (301) 415-1130 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Brian K. Grimes, Acting Director
Division of Reactor Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 52-001

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/enclosure:
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GE Nuclear Energy

Docket No. 52-001

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TQMB Comments:

The word "steamflow" was deleted from the top of page 14.2-171 of the SSAR since the word was thought to be repeated in the SSAR at the end of the page 14.2-170. In the DCD, the word appears at the end of page 14.2-170 but does not appear at the beginning of page 14.2-171. To make the SSAR consistent with the DCD, the word should be added to the end of SSAR page 14.2-170.

On page 14.3-1 of the DCD, the last sentence was changed to add "basis for the NRC finding under CFR Part 52.103(g)". These same words should also be added to the SSAR page 14.3-1 so that the SSAR is consistent with the DCD.

PDST Comment:

Technical Specifications (TS) Section 16.0. Modify the COL Action Item on completing TS to conform with design certification rule. Include discussion of TS for site-specific systems, and delete the statement that "This improvement has been incorporated into the ABWR Technical Specifications." because it is confusing, given the fact that Section 5.0 is included in the DCD and has not been relocated. Also modify TS Section 5.4 to conform with the rule and its statements of consideration regarding the change process for information in the TS, their bases, and the DCD.