



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

52-003

May 3, 1996

Mr. Nicholas J. Liparulo, Manager
Nuclear Safety and Regulatory Analysis
Nuclear and Advanced Technology Division
Westinghouse Electric Corporation
P.O. Box 355
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15230

SUBJECT: SUPPLEMENT TO DRAFT SAFETY EVALUATION REPORT (DSER) ON AP600
COMPUTER CODES AND TESTING PROGRAM

Dear Mr. Liparulo:

On June 26, 1992, Westinghouse Electric Corporation applied to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for certification of the AP600 standard design. This application was submitted under Part 52 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*: Subpart B ("Standard Design Certifications,") and Appendix O, "Standardization of Design: Staff Review of Standard Designs." The staff accepted the application formally as a docketed petition (Docket No. 52-003) for design certification on December 31, 1992.

On November 30, 1994, the NRC issued a DSER on the Westinghouse AP600 design certification application on the basis of information that had been received by June 30, 1994. At the time the DSER was being prepared, the Westinghouse test programs and code development and qualification efforts in support of the AP600 design were still in progress. Therefore, it was not possible for the staff to reach any final conclusions on the extent to which those programs met the applicable requirements of 10 CFR Part 52. The staff committed to issue a supplement to the draft safety evaluation report after the testing program and code qualification effort were sufficiently complete and the related documentation had been developed, analyzed, and submitted by Westinghouse to permit adequate staff review.

The staff's review is not yet complete, as discussed below. The staff has, however, prepared the enclosed supplement to the DSER to describe the status of the review. The staff addressed the following three areas of the AP600 testing program and code development and qualification effort:

- acceptability of the AP600 testing program
- quality of the AP600 analysis codes
- acceptability of the analysis codes for evaluating the AP600 design

During the review, the staff made many requests for additional information. You have supplemented the application with information in the AP600 Standard Safety Analysis Report together with other supporting submittals which have been placed on the docket. Unless otherwise noted, this supplement reflects

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the staff's review and consideration of information submitted through January 31, 1996. This document has been prepared in accordance with the schedule for the review of the AP600 that was described in SECY-96-068, "Status of the Staff's Review of Advanced Reactor Designs," dated April 1, 1996.

The staff has identified 120 open items and 16 confirmatory items that must be resolved before it can complete the review of the testing program and code development areas of the AP600 design certification application. These items are summarized in Sections 1.6 and 1.7 of the enclosed report. In order to close these items, the staff will require the additional information identified in this report and in applicable requests for additional information issued by the staff. The staff will provide its conclusions on the AP600 testing program and code development as part of the overall review of the AP600 standard design in the Final Safety Evaluation Report.

You have requested that portions of the information submitted in the June 1992 application for design certification be exempt from mandatory public disclosure. While the staff has not completed its review of your request in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.790, that portion of the submitted information is being withheld from public disclosure pending the staff's final determination. The staff concludes that the enclosed supplement to the DSER does not contain those portions of the information for which exemption is sought. However, the staff will withhold the enclosure from public disclosure for 30 calendar days from the date of this letter to allow Westinghouse the opportunity to verify the staff's conclusions. If, after that time, you do not request that all or portions of the information in the enclosure be withheld from public disclosure in accordance with 10 CFR 2.790, the enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the project manager, Bill Huffman, at (301) 415-1141.

Sincerely,

original signed by:
Brian K. Grimes, Acting Director
Division of Reactor Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 52-003

Enclosure: As stated

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Mr. Nicholas J. Liparulo
Westinghouse Electric Corporation

Docket No. 52-003
AP600

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