



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0901

November 3, 1997

50-454/455
50-456/457

Mr. Nicholas J. Liparulo
Manager, Equipment Design and
Regulatory Engineering
Westinghouse Electric Corporation
P.O. Box 355
Pittsburgh, PA 15230-0355

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR WITHHOLDING INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE
(CAW-97-1074)

Dear Mr. Liparulo:

By letter dated September 24, 1997, Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd) submitted the Westinghouse report, WCAP-14732, "Probabilistic Analysis of Reduction in Turbine Valve Test Frequency for Nuclear Plants with Westinghouse BB-296 Turbines with Steam Chests," and requested that it be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790. Non-proprietary version WCAP-14733 was also included in the submittal.

A letter and an affidavit dated January 30, 1997, from Westinghouse, the owner of the information, was included in the submittal. Westinghouse stated that the submitted information should be considered exempt from mandatory public disclosure for the following reasons:

- "(a) The information reveals the distinguishing aspects of a process (or component, structure, tool, method, etc.) where prevention of its use by any of Westinghouse's competitors without license from Westinghouse constitutes a competitive economic advantage over other companies.
- "(c) Its use by a competitor would reduce his expenditure of resources or improve his competitive position in the design, manufacture, shipment, installation, assurance of quality, or licensing a similar product.

We have reviewed your application and the material in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.790 and, on the basis of Westinghouse's statements, have determined that the submitted information sought to be withheld contains trade secrets or proprietary commercial information.

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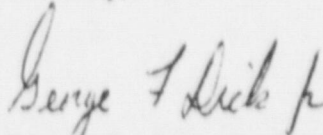


Therefore, we have determined that the document entitled, WCAP-14732, "Probabilistic Analysis of Reduction in Turbine Valve Test Frequency for Nuclear Plants with Westinghouse BB-296 Turbines with Steam Chests," marked as proprietary will be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790(b)(5) and Section 103(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Withholding from public inspection shall not affect the right, if any, of persons properly and directly concerned to inspect the documents. If the need arises, we may send copies of this information to our consultants working in this area. We will, of course, ensure that the consultants have signed the appropriate agreements for handling proprietary information.

If the basis for withholding this information from public inspection should change in the future such that the information could then be made available for public inspection, you should promptly notify the NRC. You should also understand that the NRC may have cause to review this determination in the future, for example if the scope of a Freedom of Information Act request includes your information. In all review situations, if the NRC makes a determination adverse to the above, you will be notified in advance of any public disclosure.

Sincerely,



George F. Dick, Jr., Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate III-2
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. STN 50-454, STN 50-455,
STN 50-456, STN 50-457

cc: see next page

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Therefore, we have determined that the document entitled, WCAP-14732, "Probabilistic Analysis of Reduction in Turbine Valve Test Frequency for Nuclear Plants with Westinghouse BB-296 Turbines with Steam Chests," marked as proprietary will be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790(b)(5) and Section 103(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

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Project Directorate III-2
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV
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