

PDR

Westinghouse Electric Corporation

Commercial Nuclear Fuel Division

Drawer R Columbia South Carolina 29250 (803) 776 2010

NRC-98-005

February 5, 1998

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission ATTN: Mr. James Lieberman, Director Office of Frforcement One White Flint North 11555 Rockville Pike Rockville, MD 20852-2738

Dear Sir::

Subject: Payment of Civil Penalty Reference:) Report No.: 70-1151/97-205 2) NRC Letter EA-97-442; January 6, 1998

In connection with the violations assessed a base Severity Level III civil penalty in the referenced report and NRC letter transmitting a Notice of Violation and Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalty, Westinghouse Electric Company, a division of CBS Corporation, hereby remits the entire amount, \$13,750, of the civil penalty. We acknowledge that the imposition of the civil penalty reflects the expectations of the NRC regarding the importance of maintaining an effective nuclear criticality safety control program at our Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility (CFFF).

As stated in more detail in our Reply to Notice of Violation also being submitted today, we want to reemphasize, in connection with the events giving rise to the violations and associated civil penalty, that at no time was safety compromised for CFFF employees, the public or the environment. As acknowledged by the NRC, the comprehensive set of corrective actions underway to respond to the violations, including appropriate management oversight, and other on-going management control processes at CFFF, both address the specific incidents and violations, and will assure prevention of programmatic recurrence. However, we do appreciate the seriousness of the specific violations and their significance relative to the need

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to conduct the CFFF nuclear criticality safety process in accordance with all safety and regulatory compliance requirements. Accordingly, as we do not wish to prolong deliberation over an issue that is being appropriately addressed, we are today remitting the entire amount of the civil penalty.

Sincerely,

Westinghouse Electric Company

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Jack B. Allen, Plant Manager Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility

 CC: U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Regional Administrator, Region II Atlanta Federal Center
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