



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

March 4, 2021

Ms. Michelle Catts
Senior Vice President, Regulatory Affairs
GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas, LLC.

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE LETTER FOR THE REVIEW OF GE-HITACHI LICENSING
TOPICAL REPORT NEDO-33914, REVISION 0, "BWRX-300 ADVANCED CIVIL
CONSTRUCTION AND DESIGN APPROACH" (DOCKET No. 99900003)

Dear Ms. Catts:

By letter dated January 20, 2021, GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas, LLC (GEH) submitted Licensing Topical Report (LTR) NEDO-33914, "BWRX-300 Advanced Civil Construction and Design Approach" (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML21020A135), to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff for review. In that letter, GEH requested the NRC staff to review the design, analysis, and monitoring guidelines, and requirements for construction of a BWRX-300 Small Modular Reactor. GEH further requested that the NRC staff review this information, determine its acceptability for use, and issue an advanced safety evaluation report (SER) with no open items no later than October 20, 2021.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the NRC staff has evaluated the submitted LTR on Advanced Civil Construction and Design Approach, Revision 0, and determined that it provides sufficient technical information for the NRC staff to conduct a detailed technical review. If the NRC staff needs additional information to complete its review, we will issue formal requests for additional information (RAIs) by separate correspondence.

The acceptance of the subject LTR for the NRC staff's review, in addition to a preliminary review schedule, were discussed with George Wadkins of the GEH staff on March 4, 2021. The NRC staff expects to issue RAIs before July 30, 2021. If GEH satisfactorily responds to all RAIs by September 13, 2021, and resolves all issues identified during the review process, the NRC staff expects to provide the advanced SER with no open items to GEH for proprietary material and fact check review before December 23, 2021. The staff will then coordinate with the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) on available dates regarding their review of the LTR.

Section 170.21, "Schedule of fees for production and utilization facilities, review of standard referenced design approvals, special projects, inspections, and import and export licenses," of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* requires that LTRs are subject to fees based on the full cost of the review. You did not request a fee waiver; therefore, the NRC staff's hours will be billed accordingly.

The NRC staff estimates that conducting a detailed safety review of this LTR will require approximately 1,100 staff-hours, including project management time. This estimate is based on RAIs with a 45-day GEH response time, with the initiation of a GEH RAI review timeline that starts upon draft RAI receipt. The estimate also assumes three meetings between the NRC staff and the GEH staff to discuss the LTR review, possible audit activities, and presentations to the ACRS. This estimate is based on the NRC staff's cursory review for sufficiency and completeness. The level of effort could change once the NRC staff delves into matters of technical and/or policy merit during the detailed safety review of the LTR. Similarly, the schedule could change if additional rounds of RAIs are needed, or if the ACRS declines to review the LTR.

If you have any questions please contact the Project Manager, Alina Schiller, at Alina.Schiller@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Michael I. Dudek, Branch Chief
New Reactor Licensing Branch
Division of New and Renewed Licenses
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 99900003

cc: GEH BWRX-300 NEDC-33914 ListServ

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***via email**

NRR-106

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