



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

July 9, 2021

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

SUBJECT: REVISED REVIEW SCHEDULE FOR GE-HITACHI LICENSING TOPICAL
REPORT NEDC-33922P, REVISION 0, "BWRX-300 CONTAINMENT
EVALUATION METHOD" (DOCKET No. 99900003)

Dear Ms. Catts:

By letter dated September 25, 2020, GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas, LLC (GEH) submitted Licensing Topical Report (LTR) NEDC-33922P, Revision 0, "BWRX-300 Containment Evaluation Method" (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML20269A469), to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff for review. By letter dated November 13, 2020, the NRC staff informed you that the LTR was accepted for review, and the staff received the requested methods input decks on December 17, 2020 (ADAMS Accession No. ML20308A620).

The original schedule and resource estimate letter was submitted to GEH on February 1, 2021 (ADAMS Accession No. ML21029A016). The NRC staff submitted requests for additional information (RAIs) on April 8, 2021 (ADAMS Accession No. ML21111A055) and GEH responded as requested before May 24, 2021 (ADAMS Accession No. ML21139A111).

The NRC staff expects to issue the next round of RAIs before August 5, 2021, as long as the current schedule for needed LTR support calculations and the information requested as part of the staff ongoing Regulatory Audit (ADAMS Accession No. ML20363A025) is received from GEH before July 14, 2021. If GEH satisfactorily responds to all RAIs by September 17, 2021, resolves all issues identified during the audit review process, and provides a revised LTR with the information the staff requested on the docket the NRC staff expects to provide the advanced safety evaluation report (SER) with no open items as originally scheduled to GEH for proprietary material and fact check review before January 7, 2022. The staff will then coordinate with the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) on available dates for the ACRS to hold a meeting regarding the LTR and NRC staff's advanced SER.

However, the NRC staffs' original estimate for conducting the detailed safety review of this LTR, including confirmatory analyses, was approximately 3,500 staff-hours, including project management time. Due to the need for additional review by staff related to specific identified issues during the audit, the staff expects the need for an additional 1,500 staff-hours to complete its review. This estimate does not include the LTR acceptance review charges (300 staff-hours i.e., hours charged before November 13, 2020). Similarly, the schedule could change if additional rounds of RAIs are needed, or if the ACRS declines to review the LTR.

M. Catts

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If you have any questions please contact the Project Manager, Jim Shea, at James.Shea@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Docket No.: 99900003

cc: GEH BWRX-300 NEDC-33922P ListServ

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DATED: JULY 9, 2021

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***via email**

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