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

December 21, 1999

Mr. Ralph Phelps, Chairman
CE Owners Group
Omaha Public Power District
P.O. Box 399
Ft. Calhoun, NE 68023-0399

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE FOR REFERENCING OF CE NPSD-1045, "JOINT APPLICATIONS REPORT, MODIFICATIONS TO THE CONTAINMENT SPRAY SYSTEM, AND THE LOW PRESSURE SAFETY INJECTION SYSTEM TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS" (TAC NO. MA1956)

Dear Mr. Phelps:

We have concluded our review of the subject Joint Applications Report (JAR) of April 6, 1998, submitted by the Combustion Engineering Owners Group. The proposed changes would allow an extension of the allowed outage time (AOT) to seven days for one containment spray system (CSS) train.

The report also requested modifications to the low pressure safety injection (LPSI) system and CSS action statement end states. The staff did not complete its review of the modifications to the LPSI and CSS technical specifications (TS) end states. Subsequent to the CEOG's submittal of the Joint Applications Report, the industry undertook an initiative to review the end states of all of the TS limiting conditions for operation (LCOs) in an effort to identify the most risk-beneficial end state for each LCO. The CEOG is leading this initiative. Therefore, the staff concluded, after discussion with the CEOG, that the review of all end state issues should be deferred until the industry submits its generic request for changes to TS end states.

The CSS AOT extension to seven days portion of the report is acceptable for referencing in licensing applications for ABB-CE plants except for the Calvert Cliffs units, subject to the limitations specified in the report and in the associated NRC safety evaluation, which is enclosed. The evaluation defines the basis of acceptance of the report.

We do not intend to repeat our review of the matters described in the report, and found acceptable, when the report appears as a reference in license applications, except to assure that the material presented is applicable to the specific plant involved. Our acceptance applies only to matters approved in the report.

In accordance with procedures established in NUREG-0390, "Topical Report Review Status," we request that ABB Combustion Engineering publish an accepted version of this topical report within 3 months of receipt of this letter. The accepted version shall incorporate this letter and the enclosed safety evaluation between the title page and the abstract.

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Mr. Ralph Phelps

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It must be well indexed such that information is readily located. Also, it must contain in appendices historical review information, such as questions and accepted responses, and original report pages that were replaced. The accepted version shall include an "A" (designating accepted) following the report identification symbol.

Should our criteria or regulations change so that our conclusions as to the acceptability of the report are invalidated, ABB-CE and/or the applicants referencing the topical report will be expected to revise and resubmit their respective documentation, or submit justification for the continued applicability of the topical report without revision of their respective documentation.

Sincerely,

Stuart A. Richards, Director
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 692

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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Mr. Ralph Phelps

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Stuart A. Richards, Director
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Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

CE OWNERS GROUP

Project No. 692

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