

June 10, 2003

Mr. Wilfred Dere, Esq.
EPRI, Inc.
3412 Hillview Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94304-1395

SUBJECT: ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE (EPRI) – REQUEST FOR
WITHHOLDING INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

Dear Mr. Dere:

By letter dated November 12, 2002, EPRI submitted an affidavit dated November 12, 2002, executed by you, requesting that the following document be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 2.790:

"FALCON-BETA-RIA"

A nonproprietary copy of the document was not provided for placement in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Public Document Room and for addition to the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Public Electronic Reading Room.

The affidavit stated that the submitted information should be considered exempt from mandatory public disclosure for the following reasons:

- (4) The report is not available in public sources. EPRI developed the Information only after making a determination that the Information was not available from public sources. Developing the Information required a large expenditure of dollars and EPRI employees' time. The money spent, plus the value of EPRI's staff time in preparing the Information, shows that the Information is highly valuable to EPRI. Finally, the Information was developed only after a long period of effort of at least several months.
- (5) A public disclosure of the Information would be highly likely to cause substantial harm to EPRI's competitive position and the ability of EPRI to license the Information both domestically and internationally. The Information can only be acquired and/or duplicated by others using an equivalent investment of time and effort.

We have reviewed your application and the material in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.790 and, on the basis of your statements, have determined that the submitted information sought to be withheld contains proprietary commercial information and should be withheld from public disclosure.

Therefore, the document entitled, "FALCON-BETA-RIA," 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 also should 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.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, I may be reached at (301) 415-3764.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Brian Benney, Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate IV
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 669

cc: See next page

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Electric Power Research Institute

Project No. 669

cc:

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Director

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