

September 3, 2003

Dr. Ken Hedges
Vice President, ACR Business Unit
Atomic Energy of Canada, Limited (AECL) Technologies Inc.
481 North Frederick Ave., Suite 405
Gaithersburg, MD 20877

SUBJECT: ADVANCED CANDU REACTOR (ACR-700) - AVAILABILITY OF R&D
FACILITIES FOR CONFIRMATORY TESTING

Dear Dr. Hedges:

Your letter dated July 28, 2003, informed Mr. Samuel J. Collins, Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, of the availability of AECL's Research and Development (R&D) facilities for U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) sponsored testing. The NRC is currently considering the adequacy of the full height system thermal hydraulic facility RD-14M for confirmatory testing of the Advanced CANDU Reactor (ACR-700) design. The staff is planning to conduct an independent scaling analysis to determine the adequacy of the RD-14M facility for ACR-700 confirmatory testing during the design certification review. A decision on whether the RD-14M is adequate for ACR-700 confirmatory testing will be made subsequent to the result of the independent scaling analysis which is scheduled to be completed in April 2004. We appreciate the willingness of AECL to make their facilities available to the NRC for ACR-700 confirmatory testing.

Sincerely,

/RA/

R. William Borchardt, Acting Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 722

September 3, 2003

Dr. Ken Hedges
Vice President, ACR Business Unit
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Sincerely,

/RA/

R. William Borchardt, Acting Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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