

August 16, 2007

Mr. Ronnie L. Gardner, Manager
Site Operations and Regulatory Affairs
AREVA NP Inc.
3315-A Old Forest Road
P.O. Box 10935
Lynchburg, Virginia 24506

Dear Mr. Gardner:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your letter of July 13, 2007, addressed to Chairman Klein, requesting independent control of Safeguards Information (SGI) for AREVA NP Inc. The Commission agrees that it is necessary for reactor vendors to have independent control of this type of information to support their work in the design, engineering, and construction of new nuclear plants.

Your planned submittal is in alignment with the agency's current work on this matter, as documented in the NRC letter to you dated May 17, 2007. As stated in the May 17, 2007 letter, the NRC will issue an Order to AREVA NP Inc., in the near future imposing requirements for the protection of SGI.

The NRC staff is ready to review your SGI program as soon as the program specifics are received. Please note that the staff will also need to inspect your proposed facility for the storage of SGI prior to approval of your program. Upon approval of your program, the staff will share the aircraft impact characteristics as described in the May 17, 2007 letter.

Your point-of-contact for this effort is Mr. Wesley W. Held, Project Manager, Division of New Reactor Licensing, Office of New Reactors. Mr. Held can be contacted by telephone at 301-415-1583; or by e-mail at wwh@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

R. William Borchardt, Director
Office of New Reactors

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R. William Borchardt, Director
Office of New Reactors

This correspondence addresses policy issues previously resolved by the Commission, transmits factual information, or restates Commission policy.

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