

August 10, 2011

J. A. Gresham, Manager
Regulatory Compliance
Westinghouse Electric Company
1000 Westinghouse Drive
Cranberry Township, PA 16066

SUBJECT: NRC PROPRIETARY RESPONSE TO WESTINGHOUSE LTR-NRC-08-44

Dear Mr. Gresham:

On January 8, 2009, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) sent Westinghouse Electric Company the enclosed response (Ref. 1) to letter LTR-NRC-08-44 (Ref. 2). As a precaution, the staff marked the contents of that NRC response proprietary because portions of LTR-NRC-08-44 were proprietary.

On April 20-21, 2011, NRC staff members observed an industry meeting at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) to obtain an update on the development of advanced cladding materials. Westinghouse was the only nuclear fuel vendor present at these meetings and thus an important party in the development of advanced cladding materials. If this technology were to be deployed by the nuclear industry at the nation's nuclear power plants, then new regulatory criteria would have to be developed.

We believe that the NRC letter to Westinghouse of January 8, 2009 (Ref. 1) contains information that could assist in the definition of regulatory criteria for advanced cladding and fuel materials. Therefore, we would like to make our response available to the public. We would like to distribute this letter to the parties present at the ORNL meeting April 20-21, 2011, to begin a discussion on regulatory criteria for advanced cladding and fuel materials.

We believe that our letter contains no information that is proprietary to Westinghouse. Nonetheless, we ask for your kind review of this NRC response letter. Please identify any proprietary information in that letter that should not be released to the public or confirm to us that there is no such information in the letter. If you believe any information should not be released, please provide the basis for that conclusion using the criteria in 10 *Code of Federal Regulations* 2.390(b) (3).

We would appreciate a response to this letter by August 19, 2011. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

/RA/ J. Uhle for

Brian W. Sheron, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

Enclosures transmitted herewith contain Official Use Only-Proprietary Information. When separated from enclosures, this transmittal document is decontrolled
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References

1. Letter from B. Sheron to J.A. Gresham, "NRC Response to LTR-NRC-08-44," January 8, 2009. (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML083510104)
2. Letter from J. A. Gresham to E. Leeds, M. Johnson, and B. Sheron, "Initiation of NRC Planning for Future Industry Introduction of Advanced Fuels for Existing and New Commercial Light Water Reactors," LTR-NRC-08-44 P-enclosure, September 15, 2008. (ADAMS Accession No. ML082670550)

Enclosure:

Response to LTR-NRC-08-44 (proprietary)

References

1. Letter from B. Sheron to J.A. Gresham, "NRC Response to LTR-NRC-08-44," January 8, 2009. (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML083510104)
2. Letter from J. A. Gresham to E. Leeds, M. Johnson, and B. Sheron, "Initiation of NRC Planning for Future Industry Introduction of Advanced Fuels for Existing and New Commercial Light Water Reactors," LTR-NRC-08-44 P-enclosure, September 15, 2008. (ADAMS Accession No. ML082670550)

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DISTRIBUTION:

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