

**AUDIT REPORT OF THE RESPONSES TO REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
LETTER NO. 417 CONCERNING STEAM DRYER DESIGN METHODOLOGY SUPPORTING
CHAPTER 3 OF THE ECONOMIC SIMPLIFIED BOILING WATER REACTOR DESIGN
CERTIFICATION DOCUMENT**

On November 15 through December 11, 2013, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) conducted an audit using an electronic reading room to review RAI responses by the GE Hitachi (GEH) staff that addressed RAI Letter No. 417 (ADAMS Accession number ML13316B229 – cover letter, ML13316B654 – public version of RAIs, ML13316A822 – proprietary version of RAIs) and determine if the RAI responses are appropriate based on the discussion of the topics during a closed (proprietary) meeting held on November 1, 2013. The audit plan was provided in an NRC letter dated November 15, 2013, to GEH (ADAMS Accession package number ML13343A038) and was later revised (ML13343A055) to modify the schedule for completion of the audit. Below is a summary of the audit.

1.0. BACKGROUND

By letter dated August 24, 2005, GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy (GEH) submitted an application for final design approval and standard design certification of the economic simplified boiling water reactor (ESBWR) standard plant design pursuant to 10 CFR Part 52. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is performing a detailed review of this application to enable the staff to reach a conclusion on the safety of the proposed design.

RAI Letter No. 417 was needed to continue portions of the review as a result of the steam dryer audit conducted March 21 through 23, 2012 (ML12166A127), responses to RAI Letter No. 414 (ML120950046 – public version of RAIs, ML121180072 – proprietary version of RAIs), and responses to RAI Letter No. 415 (ML13086A071 – public version of RAIs, ML13086A090 – proprietary version of RAIs).

2.0. PURPOSE

The purpose of the audit was to review RAI responses to determine if they were appropriate, based on the discussion of the topics during a closed (proprietary) meeting held on November 1, 2013.

3.0 AUDIT DETAILS

During the audit, GEH provided their responses to all RAIs in Letter No. 417 using an electronic reading room. The following participated in the audit:

- NRC: David Misenhimer, Theresa Clark, Yuken Wong,
Thomas Scarbrough
- NRC Contractors: Stephen A. Hambric, Richard Morante, Vik Shaw
- GEH: Jerry Head, Dan Pappone, Jon McLamb, Scott Bowman,
Jerry Deaver

5.0 CONCLUSION

The staff's audit covered all responses to RAI Letter No. 414. The staff concluded that the responses were appropriate based on the discussion of the topics during a closed (proprietary) meeting held on November 1, 2013.