



# HITACHI

## GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
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Washington, DC 20555-0001

**Subject: GEH Proposed Resolution to NRC Suggested U.S. Advanced Boiling Water Reactor Design Changes, Item #21 – Obsolete Communication Technology**

### References:

1. Letter from USNRC to Jerald G. Head, GEH, Subject: GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy – United States Advanced Boiling-Water Reactor Design Certification Renewal Application, July 20, 2012 (ML12125A385)
2. Letter from GEH to USNRC, Subject: NRC Review of GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy – United States Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (ABWR) Design Certification Renewal Application – Submittal Date for ABWR DCD Revision 6, March 17, 2014 (ML14078A070)

In Reference 1, the NRC requested that GEH consider certain design changes that might be included in the Advanced Boiling-Water Reactor (ABWR) design certification renewal application. For Item 21 on the list, the NRC suggested design changes to replace obsolete data communication technology, indicating that the replacement design should conform to current instrumentation and control related regulations, industry standards, and regulatory guidance. GEH responded to the NRC in Reference 2 with information on Item 21. The NRC provided further detail regarding Item 21 in a meeting held on May 7, 2015.

Enclosure 1 contains GEH's position on Item #21 of the "28-item backfit list" transmitted in Reference 1. GEH has considered the suggested design change and NRC comments at the meeting and, for the reasons set forth in Enclosure 1, has determined that the communications technology described in the ABWR design certification complies with NRC regulations and orders applicable and in effect at the time the design certification was issued, and that the information in the ABWR design certification renewal application is sufficient. No changes to the renewal application are proposed at this time.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Hugh Upton at 408-314-8499.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerald Head", written in a cursive style.

Jerald G. Head  
Senior Vice President, Regulatory Affairs

Commitments: No additional commitments are made in this response.

Enclosures:

1. GEH Response to Item #21 – Obsolete Communication Technology

cc: Adrian Muniz, NRC  
David Sledzik, GEH  
Peter Yandow, GEH  
Patricia Campbell, GEH  
Shailesh R. Sheth, GEH  
Hugh A. Upton, GEH  
James A. Beard, GEH  
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