GENERAL ELECTRIC

NUCLEAR POWER

SYSTEMS DIVISION

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY, 175 CURTNER AVE., SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA 95125

April 29, 1983

Harold R. Denton, Director
Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: GESSAR II Docket No. STN-50-447

Dear Mr. Denton:

We are in receipt of your letter dated April 21, 1983 wherein you stated NRR's policy on Issuing a Final Design Approval (FDA) for standard plant applications such as the GESSAR II Nuclear Island Design.

We wish to provide you with a statement of GE's objectives for an FDA in light of the current Commission's proposed Policy Statement on Severe Accidents, and the status of GE submittals to meet the Policy Paper requirements. This is a restatement of our desires for an FDA as covered in GE letters on October 1, 1982, March 9, 1983, and April 14 and 19, 1983.

1. General Electric desires a Final Design Approval for future referencing for Construction Permits and Operating Licenses. GE does not want an FDA restricted to plants which referenced the PDA.

2. General Electric will wait until the Severe Accident Policy Paper (SECY 82-1B) has become final at which time we request immediate issuance of an FDA which could be referenced in new CP or OL applications.

3. Until the Severe Accident Policy Paper becomes final we request that the Staff conduct the GESSAR review to include all items needed for an FDA for forward referencing.

4. As prescribed by the Severe Accident Paper, General Electric has submitted the information necessary to be granted an FDA for forward referencing. GE has submitted the following on the GESSAR docket:

   a. An evaluation of the GESSAR II design against the Standard Review Plan, NUREG 0800, and all current Regulatory Requirements in effect today (through REG. Guide 1.150).

   b. An amendment to demonstrate compliance with NUREG 0737.

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c. An evaluation of the Unresolved Safety Issues as pertain to GESSAR II.

d. The submission of a Probabilistic Risk Assessment for the BWR 6 Mark III design.

e. A statement of GE's intent to secure an FDA from the NRC for forward referencing.

The NRC Policy Statement on Severe Accidents (Sections V and X) provides that applicants such as GE having met the above requirements shall be provided with an FDA for forward referencing. The review by the Staff of the necessary material (Items 4a, b, c above) is contained in the GESSAR SER NUREG 0979. Accordingly all Staff efforts are complete for the issuance of an FDA for a forward referencing.

We recommend that the ACRS be requested to review the GESSAR II SER, NUREG 0979, which contains the information necessary to grant an FDA for forward referencing. We further ask that the ACRS be told of the NRC-GE plan to issue an FDA when the Severe Accident Policy Paper is final. The ACRS should be asked to review all the material in the SER, and write a letter supporting an FDA for forward referencing. The ACRS letter along with the GESSAR SER, would then provide all the necessary information needed for the NRC to grant an FDA for forward referencing when the Policy Paper is final.

We believe that the above plan is consistent with GE and NRC planning over the past year, and is in accordance with the provisions and spirit of the NRC's Severe Accident Policy Paper to issue FDA's for forward referencing when the provisions of Sections V and X are met.

If you have any questions, we would be pleased to discuss these plans further with you or meet with you whichever is appropriate.

Sincerely,

Glenn G. Sherwood, Manager
Safety and Licensing Operation

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cc:
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