



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 24, 1997

Mr. Nicholas J. Liparulo, Manager
Regulatory and Engineering Networks
Westinghouse Electric Corporation
Mail Stop ECE 4-15
Post Office Box 355
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15230-0355

Dear Mr. Liparulo:

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR WITHHOLDING INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE,
WESTINGHOUSE LETTER OF DECEMBER 12, 1996

By Westinghouse Owners Group (WOG) letter (OG-96-105) dated December 12, 1996, both proprietary and non-proprietary versions of the material that was presented at a meeting with the staff on November 12, 1996, were submitted. The meeting was held to discuss the WOG project regarding Application Specific Integrated Circuit (ASIC)-based reactor control and protection system replacement modules for Westinghouse designed nuclear units. In letter CAW-96-1047, dated December 12, 1996, you requested the proprietary material be withheld from public disclosure in accordance with 10 CFR 2.790. This is the response to that request.

In your request, you stated that you considered certain information in the presentation material to be proprietary and requested that it be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790. The affidavit, executed by Mr. Henry A. Sepp on December 12, 1996, stated that the information should be considered exempt from mandatory public disclosure for the following reasons:

- (a) The information reveals the distinguishing aspects of a process (or component, structure, tool, method, etc.) where prevention of its use by any of Westinghouse's competitors without license from Westinghouse constitutes a competitive economic advantage over other companies.
- (b) Its use by a competitor would reduce his expenditure of resources or improve his competitive position in the design, manufacture, shipment, installation, assurance of quality, of licensing a similar product.

We have carefully reviewed your December 12, 1996, letter and the material contained in your request. We have concluded that on the basis of your statements, the submitted information sought to be withheld contains trade secrets or proprietary commercial information. Therefore, the version of the submitted information marked as proprietary will be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790(b)(5) and Section 103(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

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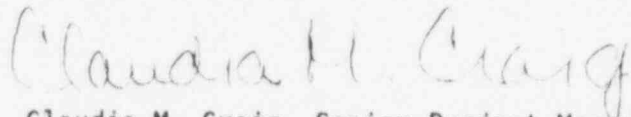
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January 24, 1997

Withholding from public inspection shall not affect the right, if any, of persons properly and directly concerned to inspect the document. If the need arises, we may send copies of this information to our consultants working in this area. We will, of course, ensure that the consultants have signed the appropriate agreements for handling proprietary information.

If the basis for withholding this information from public inspection should change in the future such that the information could then be made available for public inspection, you should promptly notify the NRC. You should also understand that the NRC may have cause to review this determination in the future, for example, if the scope of a Freedom of Information Act request included your information. In all review situations, if the NRC need additional information from you or makes a determination adverse to the above, you will be notified in advance of any public disclosure.

Sincerely,



Claudia M. Craig, Senior Project Manager
Generic Issues and Environmental
Projects Branch
Division of Reactor Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 694

cc:

Mr. Andrew P. Drake, Project Manager
Westinghouse Owners Group
Westinghouse Electric Corporation
Mail Stop ECE 5-16
Post Office Box 355
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15230-0355

Mr. Henry A. Sepp
Westinghouse Electric Corporation
Mail Stop ECE 4-07A
Post Office Box 355
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15230-0355

January 24, 1997

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Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Claudia M. Craig, Senior Project Manager
Generic Issues and Environmental
Projects Branch
Division of Reactor Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 694

cc:

Mr. Andrew P. Drake, Project Manager
Westinghouse Owners Group
Westinghouse Electric Corporation
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Post Office Box 355
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Mr. Henry A. Sepp
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