



DSI-20

(21)

Westinghouse
Electric Corporation

Energy Systems

Box 355
Pittsburgh Pennsylvania 15230-0355

NSD-NRC-96-4892

November 25, 1996

Mr. John C. Hoyle
Secretary of the Commission
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001



Attention: Chief, Docketing and Service Branch

Subject: NRC Strategic Assessment and Rebaselining (61 Federal Register 195, October 7, 1996), Request for Comments

Dear Mr. Hoyle:

Westinghouse has reviewed the Direction Setting Issue (DSI) papers which form a part of the NRC Strategic Assessment and Rebaselining Initiative. We support and endorse the comments being provided by the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) on behalf of the nuclear power industry. In addition, we have provided additional comments, included as an attachment herein, to certain DSI papers of specific significance to Westinghouse.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on these important issues. Additionally, Westinghouse is always willing to meet with the NRC to further discuss any facet of our comments. Should you wish to discuss our comments in greater detail, please contact Mr. H. A. Sepp, Manager, Regulatory and Licensing Initiatives at (412) 374-5282 at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

N. J. Liparulo, Manager
Regulatory and Engineering Networks

jas

Attachment

9611290155 961125
PDR NRCSA I
20 PDR

DS13

Westinghouse Comments
on
Direction Setting Issue Papers
from
NRC Strategic Assessment and Rebaselining Initiative

DSI 20: INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Westinghouse Comments:

Westinghouse believes that the NRC should pursue Option 4 "Conduct Activities of Benefit to NRC's Domestic Mission or U.S. National Interest" as the preferred option for conducting International activities. We believe that this option is the best choice for the following reasons:

The FSU and CEE countries have, in many areas, developed upper tier regulations based on the U.S. NRC criteria. Implementation of processes and practices for this lower tier regulation can best be provided by replicating the balance of the U.S. regulatory structure.

FSU and CEE countries are presently conducting massive review and upgrades of their VVER programs. Safe VVER programs are essential for a stabilized economy of these countries. The NRC is best positioned as the world leader to provide guidance to stabilize these authorities.

Many of the safety upgrades being proposed and implemented in FSU countries, such as the Czech Republic, are being provided by U.S. companies. In addition to complying with the in-country regulations, the modifications and upgrades are being designed, manufactured and installed in compliance to NRC standards. Providing a better understanding of the merit and application of U.S. practices to International Regulatory Authorities is both useful and beneficial to U. S. industries.