

December 2, 1996

Mr. Nicholas J. Liparulo
Nuclear Safety and Regulatory Analysis
Nuclear and Advanced Technology Division
Westinghouse Electric Corporation
P.O. Box 355
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15230

SUBJECT: EXEMPTIONS TO THE APPLICABLE REGULATIONS FOR AP600

Dear Mr. Liparulo:

Due to the unique aspects and passive nature of the AP600 design, your application does not demonstrate compliance with all applicable regulations. For example, Westinghouse has elected to specify only one offsite power source instead of two because of the AP600's enhanced capability to cope with a loss of offsite power. Although a discussion of this exemption, as well as others, is provided in the AP600 Standard Safety Analysis Report (SSAR) and has also been addressed in several SECY papers, the SSAR discussion does not address the requirements of 10 CFR 50.12. To support the Commission's granting of exemptions to the applicable regulations, the exemptions need to be identified and justified in accordance with 10 CFR 50.12. These exemptions, contingent on the staff's approval, will then be incorporated into the applicable regulations of the AP600 design certification rule.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the responsible project manager, Mr. William Huffman, at (301) 415-1141.

Sincerely,

original signed by: Dino C. Scaletti

Theodore R. Quay, Director
Standardization Project Directorate
Division of Reactor Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 52-003

cc: See next page

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Westinghouse Electric Corporation

Docket No. 52-003
AP600

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