

Docket file



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 9, 1997

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

SUBJECT: REGULATORY TREATMENT OF NON-SAFETY RELATED SYSTEMS (RTNSS) FOR AP600

Dear Mr. Liparulo:

On May 6, 1996, Westinghouse and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) held a meeting on AP600 RTNSS issues. Discussions during this meeting included alternative methods of regulatory oversight the NRC staff would consider if Westinghouse wished to take credit for non-safety related systems within the RTNSS process and thereby expedite the staff's review of issues related to the focused probabilistic risk assessment (PRA) and thermal-hydraulic uncertainties. It is the staff's understanding that Westinghouse may be willing to recommend some administrative availability controls on certain non-safety related systems which the combined license (COL) applicant would be responsible to implement. The staff would find such an approach acceptable provided the following conditions were met:

- Details on the controls for the particular systems, including limiting conditions for operations, applicability of those conditions, required actions, completion times, and surveillance requirements are reviewed and agreed to by the technical staff.
- The system controls include commitment to satisfy the Maintenance Rule (§50.65) for those systems (i.e. the RTNSS systems are within the scope of the Maintenance Rule). In addition, the availability and reliability goals used in the resolution of the RTNSS issue must form the basis for the Maintenance Rule performance goals.
- The above information is included in the AP600 standard safety analysis report (SSAR) and the associated design control document, together with a description of the RTNSS process and how the selected equipment is credited under the RTNSS process, and that a COL commitment is included in the SSAR to implement operating procedures consistent with the SSAR RTNSS availability controls. The staff would include a provision in the AP600 design certification rule which would make the RTNSS availability controls binding on an applicant or licensee that referenced the AP600 design certification.

Westinghouse is requested to identify the specific systems which it plans to place under the above RTNSS controls and provide the detailed availability controls and maintenance rules goals which will be placed in the SSAR.

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Mr. Nicholas J. Liparulo

- 2 -

June 9, 1997

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:

Marylee M. Slosson, Acting Director
Division of Reactor Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 52-003

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Docket No. 52-003
AP600

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