



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

February 8, 2021

Mr. Scott P. Murray, Manager
Facility Licensing
GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy
3901 Castle Hayne Road
P.O. Box 780
Wilmington, NC 28402

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF LOWERING THE SURETY BOND AMOUNT FOR THE
GENERAL ELECTRIC TEST REACTOR (ENTERPRISE PROJECT IDENTIFIER
L-2020-DFA-0009)

Dear Mr. Murray:

By letter dated March 6, 2020 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Package Accession No. ML20066J980), as supplemented by letter dated June 16, 2020 (ADAMS Package Accession No. ML20168A850), GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas, LLC (GEH) provided a revised site-specific decommissioning cost estimate and decommissioning funding plan, in accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 50.75, "Reporting and recordkeeping for decommissioning planning," for the Vallecitos Nuclear Center GE Test Reactor (GETR) License No. TR-1. The decommissioning cost estimate was updated in 2019 and lowered from approximately \$23.01 million to approximately \$20.7 million based on revised estimates primarily for waste inventory and disposal costs. In its March 6, 2020 submittal, GEH requested U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) approval to lower the financial assurance surety bond amount for the GETR consistent with this lowered estimate.

The NRC staff has approved GEH's request to lower the GETR surety bond amount because it determined that GEH's method of providing decommissioning financial assurance continues to be acceptable and that GEH's updated estimate of decommissioning costs is reasonable. The enclosed safety evaluation provides the basis for these determinations. Enterprise Project Identifier L-2020-DFA-0009 is considered closed.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390, "Public inspections, exemptions, requests for withholding," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR)¹ or from the Publicly Available Records component of the NRC's ADAMS. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

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S. Murray

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If you have any questions, feel free to contact Jack Parrott at (301) 415-6634 or via e-mail to Jack.Parrott@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,



Jack D. Parrott, Senior Project Manager
Reactor Decommissioning Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery,
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No.: 50-70

License No.: TR-1

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc: GE Hitachi Service List
GE Vallecitos Listserv

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L-2020-DFA-0009) DATED: February 8, 2021

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