



May 29, 2008
NRC:08:036

Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Response to a Request for Additional Information Regarding ANP-10285P, "Fuel Assembly Mechanical Design Topical Report" (TAC No. MD7040)

Ref. 1: Letter, Ronnie L. Gardner (AREVA NP Inc.) to Document Control Desk (NRC), "Request for Review and Approval of ANP-10285P, 'U.S. EPR Fuel Assembly Mechanical Design Topical Report'," NRC:07:051, October 2, 2007.

Ref. 2: Letter, Getachew Tesfaye (NRC) to Ronnie L. Gardner (AREVA NP Inc.), "Request for Additional Information Regarding ANP-10285P, 'Fuel Assembly Mechanical Design Topical Report' (TAC No. MD7040)," April 29, 2008.

Ref. 3: Letter, Getachew Tesfaye (NRC) to Sandra M. Sloan (AREVA NP Inc.), "AREVA NP Inc. - U.S. EPR Standard Design Certification Application Review Schedule," March 26, 2008.

AREVA NP Inc. (AREVA NP) requested the NRC's review and approval of topical report ANP-10285(P), "U.S. EPR Fuel Assembly Mechanical Design Topical Report" in Reference 1. The NRC provided a Request for Additional Information (RAI) regarding this topical report in Reference 2. As noted in Reference 2, AREVA NP requested and the NRC agreed that AREVA NP will provide responses to 12 of the 19 RAIs within 30 days of the date of Reference 2 and responses to the remaining 7 RAIs (1-3, 11, 13, 17, and 18) within 45 days of the date of Reference 2.

Accordingly, the responses to RAIs 4-10, 12, 14-16, and 19 are enclosed with this letter, ANP-10285Q1P, "Response to Request for Additional Information ANP-10285P, 'U.S. EPR Fuel Assembly Mechanical Design Topical Report' (TAC No. MD7040)."

AREVA NP references the topical report ANP-10285 in the Final Safety Analysis Report for the U.S. EPR. Reference 3 states that the NRC plans to complete its review of the topical report and issue the draft safety evaluation by August 21, 2008.

AREVA NP understands that this timely response to the RAI supports the scheduled deliverable of the draft safety evaluation.

AREVA NP INC.

An AREVA and Siemens company

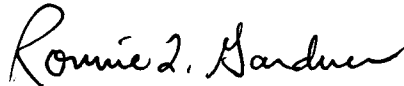
3315 Old Forest Road, P.O. Box 10935, Lynchburg, VA 24506-0935
Tel.: 434 832 3000 - Fax: 434 832 3840 - www.aveva.com

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LRC

AREVA NP considers some of the material contained in the attachments to this letter to be proprietary. As required by 10 CFR 2.390(b), an affidavit is enclosed to support the withholding of the information from public disclosure. Proprietary and non-proprietary versions of the enclosure to this letter are provided on the enclosed CDs.

If you have any questions related to this submittal, please contact Ms. Sandra M. Sloan, Regulatory Affairs Manager for New Plants Deployment. She may be reached by telephone at 434-832-2369 or by e-mail at sandra.sloan@areva.com.

Sincerely,



Ronnie L. Gardner, Manager
Corporate Regulatory Affairs
AREVA NP Inc.

Enclosures

cc: J. Rycyna
G. Tesfaye
Docket No. 52-020

requested qualifies under 10 CFR 2.390(a)(4) "Trade secrets and commercial or financial information".

6. The following criteria are customarily applied by AREVA NP to determine whether information should be classified as proprietary:

- (a) The information reveals details of AREVA NP's research and development plans and programs or their results.
- (b) Use of the information by a competitor would permit the competitor to significantly reduce its expenditures, in time or resources, to design, produce, or market a similar product or service.
- (c) The information includes test data or analytical techniques concerning a process, methodology, or component, the application of which results in a competitive advantage for AREVA NP.
- (d) The information reveals certain distinguishing aspects of a process, methodology, or component, the exclusive use of which provides a competitive advantage for AREVA NP in product optimization or marketability.
- (e) The information is vital to a competitive advantage held by AREVA NP, would be helpful to competitors to AREVA NP, and would likely cause substantial harm to the competitive position of AREVA NP.

The information in the Document is considered proprietary for the reasons set forth in paragraphs 6(b) and 6(c) above.

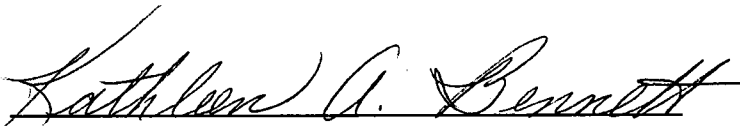
7. In accordance with AREVA NP's policies governing the protection and control of information, proprietary information contained in this Document have been made available, on a limited basis, to others outside AREVA NP only as required and under suitable agreement providing for nondisclosure and limited use of the information.

8. AREVA NP policy requires that proprietary information be kept in a secured file or area and distributed on a need-to-know basis.

9. The foregoing statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.



SUBSCRIBED before me this 29th
day of May 2008.



Kathleen A. Bennett
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF VIRGINIA
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: 08/31/2011

