

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 30, 2019

Mr. Yun-Ho Kim, Project Manager APR1400 Design Certification Advanced Reactors Development Laboratory Korea Hydro and Nuclear Power Co., Ltd. 70-1312-gil, Yuseong-daero Yuseong-Gu, Daejeon 34101 Korea (Republic of)

SUBJECT: SCHEDULE TO COMPLETE RULEMAKING AND CERTIFICATION OF THE

ADVANCED POWER REACTOR 1400 REACTOR DESIGN

Dear Mr. Kim:

By letter dated September 28, 2018, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued the Final Safety Evaluation Report (FSER) to Korea Hydro and Nuclear Power Co., Ltd., (KHNP) and Korea Electric Power Corporation that documents the completion of the staff's review of the Advanced Power Reactor 1400 (APR1400) Design Certification (DC) application (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML18263A265). Also, on September 28, 2018, the NRC issued a Standard Design Approval (SDA) for the APR1400 design (ML18261A187) under Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Part 52, Subpart E, "Standard Design Approvals." Since then, the staff has been working to certify the APR1400 design by rule. This letter is to inform you of the status of the rulemaking.

The staff has made substantial progress toward completing the rulemaking necessary to certify the APR1400 design under 10 CFR Part 52, Subpart B, "Standard Design Certifications." The rule relies on the FSER which contains the staff's completed technical and safety findings. The staff remains confident in the safety and technical findings in the FSER that support the SDA.

The Commission is the final rulemaking authority for the APR1400 design certification. As such, the Commission recently concluded its consideration of the Direct Final Rule proposed rule for the APR1400 design certification and scheduled its affirmation meeting. Once the Commission provides direction, the staff will publish the rule in the *Federal Register* within three weeks. After consideration of any public comments received on the rule and obtaining the approval of other Federal agencies, the NRC will publish a notice that confirms the effective date of the final rule. This is expected to be about four weeks after the resolution of public comments. Therefore, it appears the staff will continue to bill its fees related to the APR1400 rulemaking into the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2019. If significant adverse comments are received, the issuance of the final rule would be delayed. Finally, the Federal rulemaking process involves other Federal agencies, which creates the potential for changes to the publication schedule. We will promptly communicate to you any schedule change and the basis for that change.

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As we have done throughout this review, the staff will continue to interact with KHNP to resolve any issues that may arise as we work to complete the rulemaking. If you have any questions, please contact William Ward, the Lead Project Manager for this review, at (301) 415-7038 or via e-mail at <u>William.ward@nrc.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Robert M. Taylor, Director Division of Licensing, Siting, and Environmental Analysis Office of New Reactors

Docket No.: 52-046

cc: See next page

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ADVANCED POWER REACTOR 1400 REACTOR DESIGN

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