

August 14, 1996

The Honorable Shirley Ann Jackson
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Dear Chairman Jackson:

SUBJECT: DESIGN CHANGES PROPOSED BY ASEA BROWN BOVERI - COMBUSTION
ENGINEERING
RELATING TO THE CERTIFICATION OF THE SYSTEM 80+ DESIGN

During the 433rd meeting of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, August 8-10, 1996, we reviewed recent design changes proposed by ASEA Brown Boveri - Combustion Engineering (ABB-CE) relating to the certification of the System 80+ design. These "design changes" consist of both actual modifications to the design and corrections to the documentation to remove inconsistencies and typographical errors. We had the benefit of discussions with representatives of the NRC staff and of ABB-CE. We also had the benefit of the documents referenced.

Conclusions

Our review of Supplement 1 to NUREG-1462, "Final Safety Evaluation Report Related to the Certification of the System 80+ Design," did not change the conclusion reached in our earlier report of May 11, 1994. We continue to believe that acceptable bases and requirements have been established in the application to assure that the System 80+ Standard Design can be used to engineer and construct plants that with reasonable assurance can be operated without undue risk to the health and safety of the public.

Background and Discussion

We have been involved in the review of the System 80+ design since ABB-CE applied for certification. This review was carried out in accordance with 10 CFR Part 52, which requires ACRS to report on those portions of 10 CFR Part 52 applications that concern safety. In our May 11, 1994 report to the Commission, we supported the certification of the System 80+ design. This report was included in the staff Safety Evaluation Report (NUREG-1462). The present review is intended to supplement our earlier review of this ABB-CE application.

Sincerely,

/s/

T. S. Kress
Chairman

References:

1. U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, NUREG-1462, Supplement No. 1, "Final Safety Evaluation Report Related to the Certification of the System 80+ Design," dated July 1, 1996
2. ACRS Report dated May 11, 1994, from T. S. Kress, Chairman, ACRS, to Ivan Selin, Chairman, NRC, Subject: Report on the Safety Aspects of the ASEA Brown Boveri-Combustion Engineering Application for Certification of the System 80+ Standard Plant Design
3. Letter dated June 27, 1996, from C. B. Brinkman, ABB-Combustion Engineering Nuclear Systems, to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, regarding System 80+ Standard Plant Design Changes
4. Letter dated July 17, 1996, from C. B. Brinkman, ABB-Combustion Engineering Nuclear Systems, to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, regarding six additional design changes for System 80+ Standard Plant Design

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