

STATE LIAISON OFFICERS

SUBJECT: AP1000 DESIGN CERTIFICATION

The United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has sent to the Office of the Federal Register for publication the enclosed proposed amendment to the Commission's rules in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 52. This amendment resulted from Westinghouse Electric Company's (Westinghouse's) request for certification of its AP1000 standard plant design on March 28, 2002. The NRC staff issued a final design approval to Westinghouse on September 13, 2004, that signified completion of the technical review phase and readiness for the rulemaking phase of the AP1000 application.

This proposed rule would amend 10 CFR Part 52 to certify the AP1000 standard plant design. This proposed rulemaking action is necessary so that applicants or licensees intending to construct and operate an AP1000 design may do so by referencing the AP1000 design certification rule (DCR).

Also enclosed is an environmental assessment (EA) that has been prepared in support of the proposed rule. The conclusion of the EA is the Commission's finding that no significant environmental impact will result from the proposed rule. The EA and the Federal Register Notice (FRN) are provided for your review and comment. If you have any comments on the rule and its environmental impact, please send them by [insert the date, using the same number of days allowed for public comments in the FRN]. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the Commission is able to assure consideration only for comments received on or before this date.

You can use the following methods to transmit your comments: (1) mail your written comments to the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff; (2) fax your comments to (301) 415-1101; and (3) provide comments via the NRC's interactive rulemaking Website at <http://ruleforum.llnl.gov>. This site provides the capability to upload comments as files (any format) if your Web browser supports that function. For information about the interactive rulemaking Website, contact Ms. Carol Gallagher, (301) 415-5905 (e-mail: [CAG@nrc.gov](mailto:CAG@nrc.gov)).

For additional information on this action, please contact Lauren M. Quinones-Navarro, Mailstop O-4D9A, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, telephone (301) 415-2007, e-mail [LNQ@nrc.gov](mailto:LNQ@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

Paul H. Lohaus, Director  
Office of State and Tribal Programs

Enclosure: As stated