

April 17, 2008

Mr. Thomas L. Williamson
Manager, GGNS COLA Project
Entergy Nuclear
1340 Echelon Parkway
Jackson, MS 39213

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE FOR DOCKETING OF THE ENTERGY APPLICATION FOR A
COMBINED LICENSE FOR GRAND GULF UNIT 3

Dear Mr. Williamson:

By letter dated February 27, 2008, you tendered a combined license application (COLA) for a single unit economic simplified boiling water reactor (ESBWR) to be located at the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station (GGNS) site located in Claiborne County, Mississippi, and identified as Grand Gulf Unit 3, in accordance with the requirements contained in 10 CFR Part 52, "Licenses, Certifications and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants." In addition, you have provided supplemental information by letters dated April 9 and 11, 2008, in response to issues identified by the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff during the public meeting held on March 19, 2008, and during follow-up discussions with the NRC staff. By letter dated March 10, 2008, the NRC staff acknowledged receipt of the application and noted its intent to conduct an acceptance review.

This letter informs you that the NRC staff has completed its acceptance review and has determined that your application is acceptable for docketing. The docket number established for this application is 52-024. The staff intends to publish a schedule for the detailed technical review of your COL application within 30 days and will interact with you as this schedule is developed.

The enclosed notice of acceptance for docketing has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register and a separate notice will be published, in accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 2.104, regarding the opportunity to file a petition for leave to intervene in the mandatory hearing required for this application.

T. Williamson

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If you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, please contact me at 301-415-1365 or eric.oesterle@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Eric R. Oesterle, Senior Project Manager
ESBWR/ABWR Projects Branch 1
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket No. 52-024

Enclosure:
Federal Register Notice

cc w/encl: See next page

T. Williamson

- 2 -

If you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, please contact me at 301-415-1365 or eric.oesterle@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Eric R. Oesterle, Senior Project Manager
ESBWR/ABWR Projects Branch 1
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket No. 52-024

Enclosure:
Federal Register Notice

cc w/encl: See next page

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NAME	RKaras	KWilliams (MBN for)			
DATE	4/15/08	4/17/08			

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COL - Grand Gulf Mailing List
cc:

(Revised 04/14/2008)

Attorney General
Department of Justice
State of Louisiana
P.O. Box 94005
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9005

Mr. Ray Aycock
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Mississippi Ecological Services Office
6578 Dogwood View Parkway
Jackson, MS 39213

The Honorable Haley Barbour
Office of the Governor
PO Box 139
State of Mississippi
Jackson, MS 39205

Mr. Phil Bass
Director
Office of Pollution Control
Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 10385
Jackson, MS 39289

Mr. Michael D. Bourgeois
Manager, Project Management
Nuclear Business Development
Entergy Nuclear, M-ECH-683
1340 Echelon Parkway
Jackson, MS 39213

Ms. Michele Boyd
Legislative Director
Energy Program
Public Citizens Critical Mass Energy
and Environmental Program
215 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20003

Col. Mike Brown
Asst. Director
Military Department
Louisiana Dept. of Homeland
Security/Emergency Preparedness
7667 Independence Boulevard
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Mr. Francis G. Burford
Acting Director
Nuclear Safety Assurance
Entergy Nuclear South, M-ECH-521
1340 Echelon Parkway
Jackson, MS 39213

Ms. Nancy Butler
Harriette Person Memorial Library
606 Main St.
Port Gibson, MS 39150

Mr. Jerry Cain
Environmental Permits Division
Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 10385
Jackson, MS 39289

Marvin Carraway
Secretary, Mississippi Delta Energy Agency
P.O. Box 70
Clarksdale, MS 38614

Chief
Energy and Transportation Branch
Environmental Compliance and
Enforcement Division
Mississippi Department of Env. Quality
P.O. Box 10385
Jackson, MS 39289-0385

Director
Engineering - New Plant
Entergy Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 31995
Jackson, MS 39286-1995

COL - Grand Gulf Mailing List

Director
Licensing and QA - New Plants
Entergy Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 31995
Jackson, MS 39286-1995

Director
Nuclear Safety Assurance
Entergy Operations, Inc.
P.O. Box 756
Port Gibson, MS 39150

Mr. William A. Eaton
Vice President
System Energy Resources Inc.
Entergy Operations, M-ECH-38
1340 Echelon Parkway
Jackson, MS 39213

Mr. Rick Forest
Director
Emergency Management
for Tensas Parish
P.O. Box 768
St. Joseph, LA 71366

General Manager, GGNS
Entergy Operations, Inc.
P.O. Box 756
Port Gibson, MS 39150

Mr. Robert W. Goff
Program Director
Division of Radiological Health
Mississippi State Dept. of Health
P.O. Box 1700
Jackson, MS 39215-1700

Governor
Office of the Governor
State of Louisiana
P.O. Box 94004
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9004

Mr. William K. Hughey
Sr. Manager, Business Development
Entergy Nuclear, M-ECH-683
1340 Echelon Parkway
Jackson, MS 39213

Mr. Ronald Kinney
South Carolina DHEC
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Mr. Michael A. Krupa
Acting Director, Nuclear Safety
Assurance
Grand Gulf Nuclear Station
Bald Hill Road - Waterloo Road
Port Gibson, MS 39150

Ms. Patricia Kurkul
Regional Administrator
NOAA Fisheries Northeast Regional Office
1 Blackburn Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930

The Honorable Phillip Martin
Chief
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
P.O. Box 6010 - Choctaw Branch
Choctaw, MS 39350

Mr. Norris McDonald
President
AAEA
9903 Caltor Lane
Ft. Washington, MD 20744

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004

COL - Grand Gulf Mailing List

President
Claiborne County
Board of Supervisors
P.O. Box 339
Port Gibson, MS 39150

State Health Officer
Mississippi State Dept. of Health
Divisional of Radiological Health
P.O. Box 1700
Jackson, MS 39215-1700

Vice President
Governmental Affairs
Entergy Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 31995
Jackson, MS 39286-1995

Vice President
Business Development
Entergy Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 31995
Jackson, MS 39286-1995

Vice President
Operations Support
Entergy Operations, Inc.
P.O. Box 31995
Jackson, MS 39286

Executive Vice President
& Chief Operating Officer
Entergy Operations, Inc.
P.O. Box 31995
Jackson, MS 39286-1995

Mr. Rom Wagner
Federal and State Review Program
Interagency Coordinator
Mississippi Department
of Archives and History
P.O. Box 571
Jackson, MS 39205-0571

Mr. Russ Watson
Acting Field Office Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Louisiana Ecological Services Office
646 Cajundome Blvd.
Lafayette, LA 70506

Mr. George A. Williams
Site Vice President
Grand Gulf Nuclear Station
Bald Hill Road - Waterloo Road
Port Gibson, MS 39150

Wise, Carter, Child & Caraway
P.O. Box 651
Jackson, MS 39205

Ms. Bobbie Young
Director
Claiborne County Emergency
Management Agency
P.O. Box 558
Port Gibson, MS 39150

COL - Grand Gulf Mailing List

Email

APH@NEI.org (Adrian Heymer)
awc@nei.org (Anne W. Cottingham)
bennettS2@bv.com (Steve A. Bennett)
bob.brown@ge.com (Robert E. Brown)
BrinkmCB@westinghouse.com (Charles Brinkman)
chris.maslak@ge.com (Chris Maslak)
cwaltman@roe.com (C. Waltman)
david.lewis@pillsburylaw.com (David Lewis)
dlochbaum@UCSUSA.org (David Lochbaum)
ero@nrc.gov (Eric Oesterle)
Eugene_Grecheck@dom.com (Eugene S. Grecheck)
fburfor@entergy.com (Francis G. Burford)
frankq@hursttech.com (Frank Quinn)
garry.miller@pgnmail.com (Garry D. Miller)
gcesare@enercon.com (Guy Cesare)
george.stramback@gene.ge.com (George Stramback)
greshaja@westinghouse.com (James Gresham)
grolfso@entergy.com (Gregory A. Rolfson)
gsparks@entergy.com (Gregory L. Sparks)
gzinke@entergy.com (George Alan Zinke)
hfisack@entergy.com (Haley Fisackerly)
jgutierrez@morganlewis.com (Jay M. Gutierrez)
jim.kinsey@ge.com (James Kinsey)
jim.riccio@wdc.greenpeace.org (James Riccio)
JJNesrsta@cpsenergy.com (James J. Nesrsta)
John.O'Neill@pillsburylaw.com (John O'Neill)
Joseph_Hegner@dom.com (Joseph Hegner)
KSutton@morganlewis.com (Kathryn M. Sutton)
kwaugh@impact-net.org (Kenneth O. Waugh)
Marc.Brooks@dhs.gov (Marc Brooks)
maria.webb@pillsburylaw.com (Maria Webb)
marilyn.kray@exeloncorp.com
mark.beaumont@wsms.com (Mark Beaumont)
matias.travieso-diaz@pillsburylaw.com (Matias Travieso-Diaz)
mbourge@entergy.com (Michael D. Bourgeois)
media@nei.org (Scott Peterson)
mgiles@entergy.com (M. Giles)
mike_moran@fpl.com (Mike Moran)
MSF@nei.org (Marvin Fertel)
nirsnet@nirs.org (Michael Mariotte)
patriciaL.campbell@ge.com (Patricia L. Campbell)
paul.gaukler@pillsburylaw.com (Paul Gaukler)
Paul@beyondnuclear.org (Paul Gunter)
phinnen@entergy.com (Paul Hinnenkamp)

COL - Grand Gulf Mailing List

pshastings@duke-energy.com (Peter Hastings)
RJB@NEI.org (Russell Bell)
RKTemple@cpsenergy.com (R.K. Temple)
roberta.swain@ge.com (Roberta Swain)
sandra.sloan@areva.com (Sandra Sloan)
SauerB@BV.com (Robert C. Sauer)
sfrantz@morganlewis.com (Stephen P. Frantz)
tom.miller@hq.doe.gov (Tom Miller)
twilli2@entergy.com (Thomas L. Williamson)
Vanessa.quinn@dhs.gov (Vanessa Quinn)
VictorB@bv.com (Bill Victor)
Wanda.K.Marshall@dom.com (Wanda K. Marshall)
waraksre@westinghouse.com (Rosemarie E. Waraks)
wayne.marquino@ge.com (Wayne Marquino)
whughey@entergy.com (W. Kenneth Hughey)

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
ENTERGY OPERATIONS, INC.
ACCEPTANCE FOR DOCKETING OF AN APPLICATION FOR
COMBINED LICENSE FOR GRAND GULF UNIT 3
DOCKET NO. 52-024

By letter dated February 27, 2008, as supplemented by letters dated April 9 and 11, 2008, Entergy Operations, Inc. (EOI), on behalf of itself and Entergy Mississippi, Inc., Entergy Louisiana, LLC, Entergy Gulf States Louisiana, LLC, and System Energy Resources, Inc., submitted an application to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for a combined license (COL) for one economic simplified boiling water reactor (ESBWR) in accordance with the requirements contained in 10 CFR Part 52, "Licenses, Certifications, and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants." The application references an early site permit (ESP) granted to System Energy Resources, Inc. for the Grand Gulf ESP site. The reactor will be identified as Grand Gulf Unit 3 and located at the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station (GGNS) site in Claiborne County, Mississippi. A notice of receipt and availability of this application was previously published in the *Federal Register* (73 FR 14849 on March 19, 2008).

The NRC staff has determined that Entergy has submitted information in accordance with 10 CFR Part 2, "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings and Issuance of Orders," and 10 CFR Part 52 that is acceptable for docketing. The docket number established for this COL application is 52-024.

The NRC staff will perform a detailed technical review of the COL application. Docketing of the COL application does not preclude the NRC from requesting additional information from the applicant as the review proceeds, nor does it predict whether the Commission will grant or

deny the application. The Commission will conduct a hearing in accordance with Subpart L, “Informal Hearing Procedures for NRC Adjudications,” of 10 CFR Part 2 and will receive a report on the COL application from the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards in accordance with 10 CFR 52.87, “Referral to the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS).” If the Commission finds that the COL application meets the applicable standards of the Atomic Energy Act and the Commission’s regulations, and that required notifications to other agencies and bodies have been made, the Commission will issue a COL, in the form and containing conditions and limitations that the Commission finds appropriate and necessary.

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 51, the Commission will also prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action. Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.26, and as part of the environmental scoping process, the staff intends to hold a public scoping meeting. Detailed information regarding this meeting will be included in a future *Federal Register* notice.

Finally, the Commission will announce in a future *Federal Register* notice the opportunity to petition for leave to intervene in the hearing required for this application by 10 CFR 52.85.

Documents may be examined, and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC’s Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, Public File Area O1 F21, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland 20852, and will be accessible electronically through the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Public Electronic Reading Room link at the NRC Web site <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. The application is also available at <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/col.html>. Persons who do not have

access to ADAMS or who encounter problems in accessing documents located in ADAMS should contact the NRC PDR Reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209, or 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 17th day of April 2008.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

Eric R. Oesterle, Senior Project Manager
ESBWR/ABWR Projects Branch 1
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors