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OCAN101203

October 26, 2012

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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SUBJECT: Initial Status Report in Response to March 12, 2012, Commission Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Requirements for Mitigation Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events (Order Number EA-12-049) Arkansas Nuclear One – Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. 50-313 and 50-368
License Nos. DPR-51 and NPF-6

- REFERENCES:
1. NRC Order Number EA-12-049, *Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Requirements for Mitigation Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events*, dated March 12, 2012 (OCNA031206)
 2. NRC Interim Staff Guidance JLD-ISG-2012-01, *Compliance with Order EA-12-049, Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Requirements for Mitigation Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events*, Revision 0, dated August 29, 2012 (ML 12229A174)
 3. Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) Letter to NRC, *Industry Initiative on Procurement of Equipment for the Diverse and Flexible Coping Strategy (FLEX)*, dated February 24, 2012
 4. NEI 12-06, *Diverse and Flexible Coping Strategies (FLEX) Implementation Guide*, Revision 0, dated August 2012

Dear Sir or Madam:

On March 12, 2012, the NRC issued an order (Reference 1) to Entergy Operations, Inc. (Entergy). Reference 1 was immediately effective and directs Entergy to develop, implement, and maintain guidance and strategies to maintain or restore core cooling, containment, and spent fuel pool cooling capabilities in the event of a beyond-design-basis external event. Specific requirements are outlined in Attachment 2 of Reference 1.

Reference 1 requires submission of an initial status report 60 days following issuance of the final interim staff guidance. The final interim staff guidance (Reference 2) was issued August 29, 2012. The purpose of this letter is to provide the initial status report pursuant to Section IV, Condition C.2, of Reference 1 within 60 days following issuance of Reference 2. This report confirms Entergy has received Reference 2 and is in the process of evaluating the guidance for the purpose of establishing mitigation strategies to maintain or restore core cooling, containment, and spent fuel pool cooling capabilities in the event of a beyond-design-basis external event as described in Attachment 2 of Reference 1.

Major activities completed during this reporting period:

- Additional portable equipment was ordered prior to the issuance of Reference 2, as described in an NEI letter to the NRC (Reference 3).
- A site-specific evaluation is in progress to establish the coping capabilities as defined in NEI 12-06 (Reference 4).
- Resources are being identified and project plans initiated, including development of milestones, to assure compliance with Reference 1.

Planned activities for the next six months:

- Development and submittal of the overall integrated plan

Technical difficulties encountered that could affect the ability to provide the licensee's February 28, 2013, submittal:

- None at this time

Project milestones schedule through completion of installation and testing:

- A project milestones schedule will be provided with the overall integrated plan.
- Implementation of the order will be completed for Arkansas Nuclear One (ANO) Unit-1 prior to startup from refueling outage 1R25 (Fall 2014).
- Implementation of the order will be completed for ANO Unit-2 prior to startup from refueling outage 2R24 (Fall 2015).

This letter contains no new regulatory commitments. Should you have any questions concerning the content of this letter, please contact Stephenie Pyle at 479.858.4704.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on October 26, 2012.

Sincerely,

Original signed by Christopher J. Schwarz

CJS/nbm

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