

December 10, 2003

Mr. Thomas Coutu
Site Vice President
Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant
Nuclear Management Company, LLC
N490 State Highway 42
Kewaunee, WI 54216

SUBJECT: KEWAUNEE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT - REVIEW OF LICENSE AMENDMENT
REQUEST NO. 195, STRETCH POWER UPRATE (TAC NO. MB9031)

Dear Mr. Coutu:

The purpose of this letter is to provide the status and schedule for completion of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) review of the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant stretch power uprate amendment request. Nuclear Management Company, LLC (NMC) submitted a license amendment request dated May 22, 2003, to revise the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant technical specifications and the operating license to implement a stretch power uprate. You requested that the NRC complete its review by February 23, 2004.

In a letter dated November 5, 2003, NMC responded to the NRC staff's request for additional information (RAI). There are certain evaluations that the NMC has not provided to the NRC. The NRC needs these evaluations to complete its review of the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant stretch power uprate amendment request. Details are as follows.

In RAI Response No. 4, dated November 5, 2003, you identified two evaluations to address the effects of the stretch power uprate on (1) steam generator dry out times and (2) utilizing the refueling water storage tank to borate the reactor coolant system to cold shutdown, with and without the availability of letdown. You committed to perform these evaluations as part of Regulatory Commitment No. 12 of your May 22, 2003, submittal, prior to the implementation of the stretch power uprate. This is an open item.

In RAI Response No. 17 and 18, dated November 5, 2003, you identified two evaluations to address the effects of the stretch power uprate on (1) equipment qualified for Environmental Qualification (EQ) long-term temperature and (2) the EQ equipment required for high-energy line break outside containment for the EQ thermal lag temperatures. You committed to perform these evaluations as part of Regulatory Commitment No. 9, 10, and 11, of your May 22, 2003, submittal, prior to the implementation of the stretch power uprate. This is an open item.

In RAI Response No. 24, dated November 5, 2003, you referred to a commitment NMC made to reanalyze the Updated Safety Analysis Report Chapter 14 events and update all appropriate documentation for a Framatome fuel core. In the NRC safety evaluation report input dated April 1, 2003, for the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant amendment request 187, the NRC staff clearly stated that NMC should submit the Framatone/ANP non-loss-of-coolant-accident transient and accident analyses to support its power uprate application with Framatome fuel in the core. Without this information, the NRC staff could not validate the results presented in Amendment Request No. 187 for staff approval of the plant operation at uprated power level. This is an open item.

As a result of the above open items, the NRC's current schedule for completing the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant stretch power uprate amendment request will be adversely impacted. When NMC submits the information regarding the above open items, we will inform you of our revised schedule for completing this effort.

We hope this information will help you with your planning.

If you have any questions, you can contact me at (301) 415-1446.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John G. Lamb, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate III
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-305

cc: See next page

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John G. Lamb, Project Manager, Section 1
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