

December 7, 2004

Mr. James A. Spina
Vice President Nine Mile Point
Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, LLC
P.O. Box 63
Lycoming, NY 13093

SUBJECT: STATUS OF STAFF REVIEW OF THE NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION,
UNITS 1 AND 2, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION (TAC NOS. MC3272 AND
MC3273)

Dear Mr. Spina:

By letter dated May 26, 2004, Constellation Energy Group Inc., submitted an application pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 54 (10 CFR Part 54), to renew the operating licenses for the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station (NMP), Units 1 and 2. As part of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff review, we conducted audits of your aging management activities at the NMP plant site and at the Constellation Energy Group office in Crofton, Maryland. We also had follow-up meetings in Rockville, Maryland to further discuss audit open items. The staff discussed the audit activities with you and your staff at the audit exit meeting on November 5, 2004, in Scriba, New York. At the exit meeting, the staff also discussed your lack of adequate resources to support the NMP license renewal project.

For a typical license renewal application (LRA), the NRC staff normally would conduct only two or three audits to review its aging management activities; however, for NMP Units 1 and 2, the staff has conducted 5 audits and expects to conduct at least one more audit. The number of NMP audits is twice that of a typical LRA review.

At the November 5, 2004, exit meeting, you have committed to provide the staff with three supplements to your LRA. One of your supplements is three weeks late and incomplete. Because your support was below the level that is normally expected of a license renewal applicant, the staff audit activities are five months behind our normal schedule at this time.

In addition, the staff review involves substantial non-audit activities. Your support of these activities, such as the review of the draft requests for additional information (RAIs) has been less than timely. The staff review of the NMP license renewal application is already challenging because of the different designs between Units 1 and 2. Timely responses from you will be essential in order for the staff to meet the completion dates as previously stated in our letter to you dated July 15, 2004.

Please discuss your plan to provide adequate resources to support the established review schedule.

J. Spina

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If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at 301-415-1458 or by e-mail at nbl@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,
/RA/

N. B. (Tommy) Le, Senior Project Manager
License Renewal Section A
License Renewal and Environmental Impacts Program
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos.: 50-220 and 50-410

cc: See next page

J. Spina

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