

January 5, 2006

APPLICANT: Entergy Nuclear

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF THE NOVEMBER 15, 2005, CATEGORY 1 MEETING WITH
ENTERGY NUCLEAR TO DISCUSS ENTERGY'S PLANS FOR A COMBINED
LICENSE APPLICATION

On November 15, 2005, a public meeting was held between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and representatives of Entergy Nuclear (Entergy), at the NRC Headquarters in Rockville, MD. The purpose of the meeting was for Entergy to share with the NRC its future plans for a combined license (COL). A list of meeting attendees is included as Enclosure 1, and the agenda is included as Enclosure 2. Enclosure 3 contains Entergy's meeting handout which can be accessed through the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). This system provides text and image files of NRC's public documents. The handout mentioned above may be accessed through the ADAMS system under Accession No. ML053410118. If you do not have access to ADAMS or if there are problems in accessing the handouts located in ADAMS, contact the NRC Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737 or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov. A summary of the meeting is included below.

The NRC staff started the meeting by discussing that applicants need to communicate their schedule and plans for submitting a COL application, and that they needed to inform the NRC if the schedule or plans change. The New Reactor Licensing Branch would be the focal point of communications, and that communications was the key to maximize success. The NRC staff stated that the applicant needed to submit complete and high quality COL applications in order for the staff to develop milestones for the review and complete the review on schedule. The staff suggested that applicants work together to standardize their applications. Lastly, the staff informed the license that external stakeholders play a key role in the new reactor licensing process.

Entergy stated that industry is trying for standardization among COL applications, referencing the same reactor design. Entergy and NuStart are working together on COL applications for River Bend and Grand Gulf. Entergy will be submitting a joint application with NuStart for the Grand Gulf site, and will be submitting a separate COL application for the River Bend site. These two applications will be in a standard format with the one for Grand Gulf being the lead for the Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor (ESBWR) design. The River Bend COL application, which will be done solely by Entergy, will lag behind the submittal of the Grand Gulf application by four to six months. The two applications will be for single unit sites. The Grand Gulf application is scheduled to be submitted in either the fourth quarter of 2007 or first quarter of 2008, and will reference their early site permit (ESP). The River Bend application will be submitted in either first quarter 2008 or second quarter 2008, and will not reference an ESP. Entergy stated that they would be getting more involved in the design certification of the ESBWR.

Entergy stated the importance of regulatory stability, in particular, the predictability of schedules. Entergy stated that they are helping General Electric (GE) with the design certification of the ESBWR design. They stated that Entergy, Dominion and NuStart are working together to standardize the COL applications, so that they will all look alike, making the review easier. They desire to have pre-application meetings with all three applicants to discuss which chapters of the application will be common.

Entergy requested that pre-application interactions with the NRC staff be very specific on technical areas, and that the NRC provide a copy of the acceptance checklist to the applicants. This will enable the applicant to submit these as part of the application. Entergy requested that during the pre-application phase, the NRC staff plan for public interactions, so that Entergy can prepare the surrounding communities so that these meetings are more productive. Entergy stated that they would like to plan ahead for unanticipated occurrences by developing a communication mechanism to discuss potential options. Lastly, Entergy discussed the concept of the NRC reviewing multiple applications which are standard, to improve resource allocation, and assist with schedule adherence. Entergy stated that NuStart will be sending a letter to the NRC on the COL application for Grand Gulf within a week, and that they will be sending a letter on their COL application for River Bend in the near future.

The NRC staff discussed issues which should be considered when establishing pre-application activities. For an application which will be referencing a certified design, these issues included deviations from a certified design, resolution of design acceptance criteria, and addressing of COL action items. For all COL applications, these issues included exemptions from the regulations, policy issues, fabrication schedules for long lead time items, limited work authorizations, interactions with other Federal, state and local offices, and quality assurance.

Members of the public were in attendance.

Please direct any inquires concerning this meeting to Steven Bloom at 301-415-1313, or sdb1@nrc.gov.

/RA/

Steven D. Bloom, Senior Project Manager
New Reactor Licensing Branch A
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Project No. 738

Attachments: 1. List of Attendees
2. Agenda
3. Progress Energy Handouts (ML053360286)

cc: See next page

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Meeting with Entergy on Planning Related to a Combined License Application

Tuesday, November 15, 2005
1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
NRC Commissioners' Hearing Room O-1F16

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Steven Bloom	NRR/DRIP/RNRP	(301) 415-1313, sdb1@nrc.gov
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Agenda for Public Meeting with Entergy Nuclear Regarding
Planning Related to Possible Combined License (COL) Application
November 15, 2005, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Room O1F16

1:30 p.m. - 1:35 p.m.	Introductory Remarks	NRC
1:35 p.m. - 2:05 p.m.	Entergy Plans for COL Application (s)	Entergy
2:05 p.m. - 3:05 p.m.	Schedule Importance for COL process	Entergy
3:05 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Questions and Answers Opportunity for Public Comments	Entergy/NRC
3:30 p.m.	Adjourn	