

November 7, 2006

APPLICANT: NRG Energy, Inc.

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF OCTOBER 18, 2006, CATEGORY 1 MEETING WITH NRG ENERGY INC. REGARDING AN INTENDED FUTURE APPLICATION FOR A COMBINED LICENSE FOR TWO UNITS AT THE SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT SITE

On October 18, 2006, the staff met with representatives of NRG Energy, Inc. (NRG) and the South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC) to continue discussing NRG's and STPNOC's (the applicants') plans to apply for a combined license (COL) for the construction and operation of two Advanced Boiling Water Reactors (ABWRs) at the South Texas Project site, southwest of Houston, Texas. The applicants referred to these future units as STP Units 3 and 4. A list of those in attendance is provided as Enclosure 1.

Enclosure 2 contains the meeting presentation slides, 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 handouts mentioned above may be accessed through the ADAMS system under Accession No. ML063030344. 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.

The applicants described their progress and their changes for the proposed units. They stated that they planned to begin the application process in early 2007 and anticipated submitting the COL application in late 2007. The applicants are anticipating to be ready to support design engineering inspections in mid-2008 based on the completed first-of-a-kind engineering (FOAKE) for the ABWR. To support their schedule and optimize the application process, the applicants intend to discuss issues, options, and resolutions with the staff, respond to staff's request for additional information in a timely manner, and submit a detailed COL application following Draft Guide 1145 (DG-1145), "Combined Applications for Nuclear Power Plants (LWR addition)" and the standard review plan (SRP). They also stated that they had already begun some site work including soil and hydrology studies and core boring.

The applicants discussed some potential departures from the certified design. These departures are being categorized into Tier 1, Tier 2* and Tier 2. The majority of the departures will undergo review by the project design review board (PDRB) by the beginning of 2007. The applicants described several departures that have been reviewed or are currently being reviewed, including Weir turbine Reactor Core Isolation Cooling pump in lieu of Terry Turbine pump, medium voltage electrical distribution instead of low voltage distribution, and 110 percent bypass capability. The applicants are working with ABWR operators and General Electric to determine what design departures are practical. The applicants have established a single team design centered working group and a PDRB.

The applicants laid out the potential locations of Units 3 and 4 and discussed cooling options. The applicants are aware of the state permits needed. The applicants stated that they anticipated meeting with the staff once before the end of the year and on a monthly basis starting in calendar year 2007. The staff requested that the meetings be scheduled as far in advance as possible.

/RA/

George F. Wunder, Project Manager
ESBWR/ABWR Projects Branch 1
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Project No. 749

Enclosures: 1. Attendance List
2. NRG/STPNOC Slides (ML063030344)

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*See previous concurrence
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MEETING WITH NRG ENERGY, INC.
REGARDING INTENDED FUTURE APPLICATION
FOR A COL FOR TWO UNITS AT THE STP SITE

ATTENDEE LIST

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P. Prescott	NRR
M. Concepcion	NRR
R. Harvey	NRR
J. Cushing	NRR
E. Oesterle	NRR
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G. Gibson	STPNOC
S. Thomas	STPNOC
F. Quinn	STPNOC
J. Von Suskil	NRG
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S. Routh	Bechtel
J. Clemente	Bechtel
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L. Dusek	Fluor
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R. Olson	ENERCON
L. Kass	NEI
C. Brinkman	Westinghouse
B. Maher	Exelon
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South Texas Project Future Combined License

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