RAS 12738

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
In the Matter of System Energy Resources
Docket No. 52-009 ESP Official Exhibit No. Staff 18
OFFERED by: Applicant/Licensee Intervenor
NRC Staff Other
IDENTIFIED on 1/29/08 Witness/Panel
Action Taken: ADMITTED REJECTED WITHDRAWN
Reporter/Clerk DV

NRC STAFF EXHIBIT 18

Grand Gulf Early Site Permit

Hearing Issue H
Continuity Between ESP and COL Stages

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Preparation of SER

- Standards for Review in 10 CFR 52.18
- Review Standard RS-002
  - Processing Applications for Early Site Permits
    - NUREG-0800 – Safety Standard Review Plan
    - NUREG-1555 – Environmental Standard Review Plan

George Wunder

Preparation of SER

- Divided in sections by technical discipline
- Sections divided into subsections including
  - Areas to be reviewed
  - Acceptance criteria
  - Review procedures
  - Documentation of review findings
- Contractors follow RS-002 guidance

George Wunder

Preparation of SER

- Individual sections to Project Manager
  - Reviewed for internal consistency
  - Reviewed for consistency with application
- Reviewed by DLPM management
- Changes reviewed by technical branches
- Project Manager obtains concurrence of staff counsel
- ACRS Review

George Wunder

SUMMARY

- Detailed guidance
- Ongoing Project manager review
- Supervisory review
- Legal review

George Wunder

Assumptions and Commitments

- Assumptions and commitments
  - SSAR
  - Permit Conditions
- Permit Conditions
  - Assumption not currently supported
  - Site attribute not acceptable
  - Future action required

George Wunder

COL Action Items

- A set of additional design information
- Applicant must still meet Part 52
- Included as a part of the ESP

George Wunder

Summary

- Staff has developed Permit Conditions and COL Action Items
- Permit Conditions list is comprehensive
- COL Action Items list is a subset of future information needs
- No other list of assumptions or commitments

George Wunder

Staff's Review

The Staff initiates its review based on information contained in the application; however, the Staff is ultimately responsible for the reliability of all information used in the EIS.

The Staff conducts an audit review – it does not verify or confirm the accuracy of every piece of information in an application.

Because the application is submitted under oath or affirmation, inaccurate information that is knowingly submitted can be the basis for an enforcement action.

NEPA and Finality

The concept of finality or issue preclusion found in 10 CFR 52.39(a)(2) is not addressed in NEPA.

An issue that is "resolved" at the ESP stage has finality and is not subject to a hearing at the CP/COL stage.

However, the impacts of "resolved" issues from an ESP (whether or not the applicant used the PPE approach) will be summarized in an EIS at the CP/COL stage.

Information needed to prepare an EIS that is not contained in a CP/COL application will be requested under 10 CFR 51.41.

Continuity Between ESP and COL

A CP/COL application must demonstrate that the design of the facility falls within the parameters specified in the ESP and that the site is in compliance with the ESP.

The COL applicant is expected to identify whether there is new and significant information on any previously resolved issue.

A COL applicant is expected to have a reasonable process to ensure that it becomes aware of significant, new information on each issue that may have bearing on the earlier NRC conclusion.

A COL applicant should document the results of this process in an auditable form.

Minimum Soil Shear Wave Velocity for Nuclear Sites

- The Staff position on the minimum soil shear wave velocity of 1000 feet per second (fps) has been applied to the design certification review of all advanced reactors, and will be incorporated in revision 3 of SRP Section 3.7.2

- At the Grand Gulf ESP site, the shear wave velocity of the Old Alluvium is greater than 1000 fps based on the three new borings

- Revision 1 of SSAR Figures 2.5-75 through 2.5-77 indicates that the plant foundation can potentially be located at 140 feet below grade (elevation -5 feet), which is in the Old Alluvium zone

- On this basis, the site characteristic of "shear wave velocity of 1000 fps or greater" can be achieved at the COL stage of the Grand Gulf site

Accidental Release Issues

- Permit Condition 2 is technically feasible
  - Location and design
- Ground water monitoring is not required for accidental release:
  - Release point and source are identifiable with the plant
  - At the ESP stage, reliable radionuclide transport characteristics can not be established for an effective monitoring plan

Goutam Bagchi