

May 3, 2007

APPLICANT: NuStart Energy / Tennessee Valley Authority

PROJECT: Project No. 740

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF BELLEFONTE SITE VISIT ON JULY 10 - 11, 2006,
REGARDING COMBINED LICENSE PRE-APPLICATION SUBSURFACE
INVESTIGATION ACTIVITIES

On July 10 - 11, 2006, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff conducted a visit to the Bellefonte site. NRC staff from the headquarters office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) and Region II office conducted the site visit to observe subsurface investigation activities being conducted by NuStart Energy (NuStart) and to discuss geotechnical and seismic data in support of the anticipated combined operating license (COL) application for new nuclear power plants.

A list of participants is provided at the end of this summary. The Region II report (ML062350021) and the presentation materials (ML070720234) distributed during the visit are available electronically at the NRC's Electronic Reading Room at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. From this site, you can access the NRC's Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS), which provides text and image files of NRC's public documents. If you do not have access to ADAMS or have problems accessing the documents located in ADAMS, contact the NRC Public Document Room staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or pdr@nrc.gov.

Background

By letters dated December 7, 2004, and November 17, 2005, NuStart informed the NRC of its intent to submit a COL application in late 2007 for a new nuclear facility at the Bellefonte site. NuStart has contracted Enercon Services, Inc. (Enercon) as a nuclear services provider. MACTEC Engineering and Consulting, and William Lettis and Associates (WLA) were contracted by Enercon to conduct the geotechnical site studies for the COL application.

Visit Highlights

At the Bellefonte site, staff observed Standard Penetration Test and P-S Suspension Logging processes and reviewed some of the boring logs and shear wave velocity profiles to understand the geology/soil stratification of the site. The NRC staff provided some feedback to the applicant. Specifically, the staff expressed concern about the karst solution activity at the site because of the extensive presence of limestone beneath the surface at the site and reported karst phenomena in the nearby areas.

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