

March 17, 2008

Mr. Mark McBurnett, Vice President
Regulatory Affairs
South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company
P. O. Box 289
Wadsworth, TX 77483

SUBJECT: CHANGES IN THE PROCESSING OF REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION –
SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT UNITS 3 AND 4

Dear Mr. McBurnett:

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has developed a computer based system for processing Requests for Additional Information (RAIs), which has been discussed at several public meetings with industry. Implementation of the electronic RAI Workflow Process does not constitute any changes to the NRC's overall position regarding the importance and processing of RAIs. Rather, it is an effort to improve the time required for RAI processing and make it more efficient. In general, as RAIs are developed by the NRC staff, they will be processed and approved electronically. After approval, they will be provided to applicants as an attachment to an e-mail from the NRC Project Manager. The e-mail and attached questions will be entered into the Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS) as the official agency record and publicly available documents will be made available to the public through ADAMS and the NRC public web site. With the implementation of the electronic system, it is the intent of the NRC to eliminate distribution of paper copies of RAIs to applicants and of paper and email copies to those listed on the respective distribution lists. We understand that South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company will continue to respond to RAIs by letter.

We believe that this new process is more efficient, and will result in quicker access to RAIs by applicants, the public, as well as other stakeholders on the various distribution lists. If there are instances where this process creates a hardship for a recipient that heretofore relied on a paper or email copy, they will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and efforts made to accommodate the circumstances of the particular situation. If you have questions, I can be reached at (301) 415-1494.

Sincerely,

/RA/

George F. Wunder, Senior Project Manager
ESBWR/ABWR Projects Branch 2
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket No. 52-012
52-013

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/RAI/

George F. Wunder, Senior Project Manager
ESBWR/ABWR Projects Branch 2
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket No. 52-012

52-013

Distribution: See next page

cc: See next page

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DATE	03/17/2008	3/6/2008	3/7/2008	3/10/08

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Letter to M. McBurnett from G. Wunder dated March 17, 2008

SUBJECT: CHANGES IN THE PROCESSING OF REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION –
SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT UNITS 3 AND 4

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