

March 14, 2008

Mr. Bryan J. Dolan, Vice President
Nuclear Plant Development
William States Lee III Nuclear Station
Duke Power
P.O. Box 1006 - EC09D
Charlotte, NC 28201-1006

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENT AND CONDUCT SCOPING RELATED TO THE COMBINED
OPERATING LICENSE APPLICATION FOR WILLIAM STATES LEE III
NUCLEAR STATION (TAC NO. RB5390)

Dear Mr. Dolan:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has received your application dated December 12, 2007, for a combined license (COL) for the construction and operation of two new nuclear power plants at the Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (Duke) William States Lee III Nuclear Station (Lee), Units 1 and 2. In support of the application and in accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 51 and 10 CFR Part 52, Duke submitted an environmental report (ER).

The NRC has prepared a Notice of Intent advising the public that the NRC intends to gather information necessary to prepare an environmental impact statement in support of the review of the application for the Duke COL. Enclosed is a copy of the Notice of Intent which has been forwarded to the office of the *Federal Register* for publication.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.28, Duke is invited to participate in the environmental scoping process. As discussed in the enclosed notice, the staff is providing the public the opportunity to participate in the environmental scoping meeting to be held Thursday, May 1, 2008. The NRC will present an overview of the environmental review process and will describe how the process will be implemented for the review of the Duke COL application. The meeting will be held at Gaffney High School, 149 Twin Lake Road, Gaffney, South Carolina. A separate NRC meeting notice with a more detailed agenda is forthcoming. You will be provided a copy of that notice in a separate transmittal.

Additionally, NRC staff and contractors plan to be on-site April 28 - May 2, 2008, to discuss the background details of the preparation of the Duke ER with members of your staff, to perform a walk-down of the site and its environs, and to review documentation.

B. Dolan

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Additional details regarding the site visit will be provided to your staff before the visit. In the interim, should you have any questions regarding the environmental review process, please contact Ms. Linda Tello, NRC Environmental Project Manager, at (301) 415-2907 or by email at LMT2@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

John P. Tappert, Acting Deputy Director
For
James E. Lyons, Director */RA/*
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos.: 52-018 and 52-019

Enclosure: As stated

Additional details regarding the site visit will be provided to your staff before the visit. In the interim, should you have any questions regarding the environmental review process, please contact Ms. Linda Tello, NRC Environmental Project Manager, at (301) 415-2907 or by email at LMT2@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

James E. Lyons, Director
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos.: 52-018 and 52-019

Enclosure: As stated

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