



June 19, 2008

In reply, please refer to LAC-14038

DOCKET NO. 50-409


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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: Dairyland Power Cooperative
La Crosse Boiling Water Reactor
Possession-Only License No. DPR-45
Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation
Docket No. 72-46
NAC International Multi Purpose Cask
Docket No. 72-1025
Affirmation of Need for Dry Cask Certificate of Compliance Amendment

Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC) has chosen NAC International, Inc. (NAC) as our cask system supplier. The NAC-MPC dry cask storage system will be used to store spent nuclear fuel under 10 CFR Part 72 general license provisions at the La Crosse Boiling Water Reactor (LACBWR) Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation. LACBWR ceased operation in 1987; after the spent fuel is in dry storage, DPC will be able to focus our attention on the next phase, final decommissioning of the LACBWR facility.

In December 2008, NAC, certificate holder for the NAC-MPC, will submit a request for an amendment to Certificate of Compliance (CoC) No. 1025 to add the LACBWR spent fuel as an authorized content. The LACBWR spent fuel burnup, heat load, and source term are bounded by the characteristics of the Yankee Rowe (YR) and Connecticut Yankee PWR spent fuel currently certified for the NAC-MPC. The actual MPC-YR Transfer Cask and the current MPC-YR Vertical Concrete Cask design will be used in the loading, handling, and storage of the MPC-LACBWR canister. The new MPC-LACBWR canister will incorporate a BWR tube and disk basket based on identical design features and materials as the MPC-YR canister and will utilize fuel tube structural disk spacing of the currently certified NAC-UMS BWR basket design. For these reasons, the planned NAC-MPC amendment for LACBWR will be limited in scope which should greatly facilitate NRC's technical review, certification, and rulemaking processes.

In its license amendment submittal, NAC will request, for the benefit of DPC, that the preliminary CoC/Safety Evaluation Report (SER) be completed no later than November 30, 2009. This date

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is critical for DPC Dry Cask Storage Project planning and supports our desired goal to complete all dry cask loading and begin ISFSI operations prior to October 2010. Delay in the CoC amendment process would adversely impact a 2010 cask loading schedule by subjecting these operations to the challenges that winter conditions bring. Preliminary CoC/SER approval beyond November 30, 2009, would result in our postponement of the start of cask loading operations until April 2011, causing DPC to incur additional avoidable costs.

DPC respectfully requests the NRC's consideration in helping us meet this project milestone by providing expeditious review of the limited scope NAC-MPC CoC amendment.

This letter is to affirm that (1) changes proposed in the application for the NAC-MPC CoC amendment will enable DPC to accomplish dry cask loading of the spent fuel at LACBWR in a safe and effective manner; and (2) a preliminary CoC/SER completed no later than November 30, 2009, and timely NRC approval would allow DPC to complete loading of spent fuel in NAC-MPC dry cask storage systems during 2010.

No commitments are being made to the NRC by this letter. Should you have any questions, please contact Mike Brasel of my staff at (608) 689-4220.

Sincerely,

DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE



William L. Berg, President & CEO

WLB:JBM:two

cc: Bill Brach, Director, NRC/NMSS/SFST
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