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December 17, 2008

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

Subject: Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC  
William States Lee III Nuclear Station - Docket Nos. 52-018 and 52-019  
AP1000 Combined License Application for the  
William States Lee III Nuclear Station Units 1 and 2  
Phase I Schedule  
WLG2008.12-27

Reference: Bryan J. Dolan to Document Control Desk, *Application for Combined License for William States Lee III Nuclear Station Units 1 and 2*, December 12, 2007.

In the reference letter, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (Duke) submitted a combined license application for the William States Lee III Nuclear Station Units 1 and 2. Subsequently, the NRC Staff accepted the application for review and established a review schedule, including a Phase 1 date for the NRC's safety review of February 5, 2009. Since that time, Duke has responded to numerous requests for additional information (RAIs) from the NRC Staff. Duke currently anticipates that responses to those RAIs received prior to December 1, 2008, will be submitted to the NRC by December 23, 2008. Duke requests that, in order to provide the NRC Staff sufficient time to fully evaluate the Duke responses to RAIs, minimize the number of open items in the Staff's safety evaluation report, and realize efficiencies by resolving as many issues as possible in Phase 1, the NRC should defer the completion of Phase 1 by approximately 30 days. This request will ameliorate challenges that are typically incurred during the holiday season, and also take into account those cases where the Duke response to an RAI was protracted. Duke does not anticipate that this change will affect the overall COL schedule.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact Peter S. Hastings at 980-373-7820.

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DO93  
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Document Control Desk  
December 17, 2008  
Page 2 of 2

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