

February 26, 2009

Mr. Bryan J. Dolan, Vice President  
Nuclear Plant Development  
Duke Power Company  
P.O. Box 1006 – EC09D  
Charlotte, NC 28201-1006

SUBJECT: CHANGE IN SCHEDULE OF WILLIAM STATES LEE III NUCLEAR STATION,  
UNITS 1 AND 2 COMBINED LICENSE APPLICATION ENVIRONMENTAL  
REVIEW

Dear Mr. Dolan:

This letter informs Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC. (Duke) that the environmental schedule for the completion of the William States Lee III Combined License Application (COLA) will be indeterminate (TBD) until a revised schedule can be prepared.

The staff originally scheduled issuance of the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) by March 18, 2009, and the final EIS by March 2010. The planned schedule incorporated the following basis:

- (1) Timely applicant responses to the staff's Requests for Additional Information (RAI);
- (2) An Environmental Report (ER) consistent with other state and federal documents.

Therefore, pending a letter from Duke formalizing the submittal date of the first ER revision, a forthcoming ER supplement, and the remaining responses to the first and second round of RAIs, the Lee application review schedule/key-milestone completion dates will be TBD on the NRC's William States Lee III Nuclear Site, Units 1 and 2 Application public website. These pending submittals are likely to affect not only the environmental review schedule, but the safety review schedule as well, because of the specific issues involved. Thus, until adequate information has been received and reviewed by the environmental and safety projects branches, possible changes to the safety review schedule, and a revised EIS schedule can not be provided.

B.Dolan

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If you have any questions or comments concerning the William States Lee III COLA review, please contact Ms. Linda M. Tello, Environmental Project Manager, at 301-415-2907 or via e-mail at [Linda.Tello@nrc.gov](mailto:Linda.Tello@nrc.gov), or Brian Hughes, Safety Property Manager, at 301-415-6582 or via e-mail at [Brian.Hughes@nrc.gov](mailto:Brian.Hughes@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Robert G. Schaaf, Branch Chief  
RAP3 Projects Branch  
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews  
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos.: 52-018  
52-019

cc: See next page

B.Dolan

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If you have any questions or comments concerning the William States Lee III COLA review, please contact Ms. Linda M. Tello, Environmental Project Manager, at 301-415-2907 or via e-mail at [Linda.Tello@nrc.gov](mailto:Linda.Tello@nrc.gov) or Brian Hughes, Safety Property Manager at 301-415-6582 or via e-mail at [Brian.Hughes@nrc.gov](mailto:Brian.Hughes@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Robert G. Schaaf, Branch Chief  
RAP3 Projects Branch  
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews  
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos.: 52-018  
52-019

cc: See next page

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