

March 23, 2009

Mr. Greg Gibson  
Vice President, Regulatory Affairs  
UniStar Nuclear Energy  
250 West Pratt Street, Suite 2000  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

SUBJECT: STATUS OF REVIEW SCHEDULE FOR NINE MILE POINT 3 NUCLEAR  
POWER PLANT COMBINED LICENSE APPLICATION

Dear Mr. Gibson:

By letter dated September 30, 2008, as supplemented by letters dated October 24, 2008 and November 18, 2008, Nine Mile Point 3 Nuclear Project, LLC, and UniStar Nuclear Operating Services, LLC (UniStar), submitted an application to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for a combined license (COL) for Nine Mile Point 3 Nuclear Power Plant (NMP3NPP). The application was docketed on December 12, 2008.

On February 9, 2009, UniStar Nuclear Energy (UNE) submitted a letter to the NRC requesting that the NRC consider UNE's interest in maintaining some schedule spacing between the NRC's review of the Calvert Cliffs Unit 3 and NMP3NPP COL applications. Specifically, UNE requested that portions of the NMP3NPP COL review be sequenced to occur in September 2009.

Although a schedule cannot be published until the applicant satisfactorily addresses the issues related to Section 2.5.2 of the Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR), as identified in the COL acceptance letter of December 12, 2008, the NRC has generally agreed that the NMP3NPP review schedule can be sequenced to commence no earlier than September 2009, and has implemented, in response to UNE's request, the following actions:

1. Staff will continue, with outside expert assistance and without involving the applicant, certain technical review activities associated with the areas of ice and in-lake tsunami flooding on the safety-related structures (FSAR Section 2.4 - Hydrologic Engineering), while postponing other activities, such as, site audit, development of Requests for Additional Information (RAIs) and Preliminary Safety Evaluation Report, for this FSAR Section;
2. Staff will continue certain technical review activities associated with FSAR Chapter 8 (Electric Power), through developing draft RAIs without involving the applicant;
3. Staff will continue the activities associated with the Department of Homeland Security audit with full support from the applicant;

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4. With respect to FSAR Section 13.3, the Federal Emergency Management Agency will continue the review of offsite (State and local) emergency planning (EP) information, with full support from the applicant to develop and process RAIs; however, the NRC will not commence the review of onsite EP information, including EP Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria (EP-ITAAC) (FSAR Section 14.3.10), before September 2009.

By letter dated March 6, 2009, UNE informed the NRC that instead of separately submitting a supplement with information to address the issues related to FSAR Section 2.5.2, it would incorporate the information in Revision 1 of the COL application, and submit this revision on or before March 31, 2009. As stated above, development of a schedule will depend on the applicant's satisfactory response to the FSAR Section 2.5.2 issues.

Should you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, I can be reached at 301-415-1647 or e-mail address of Prosanta.Chowdhury@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Prosanta Chowdhury, Project Manager  
US EPR Projects Branch  
Division of New Reactor Licensing  
Office of New Reactors

Docket No. 52-038

cc: See next page (for COL – Nine Mile Point Mailing List)

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- 4. With respect to FSAR Section 13.3, the Federal Emergency Management Agency will continue the review of offsite (State and local) emergency planning (EP) information, with full support from the applicant to develop and process RAIs; however, the NRC will not commence the review of onsite EP information, including EP Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria (EP-ITAAC) (FSAR Section 14.3.10), before September 2009.

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Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Prosanta Chowdhury, Project Manager  
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 Office of New Reactors

Docket No. 52-038

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COL - Nine Mile Point Mailing List

(Revised 03/02/2009)

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