

**From:** Vaidya, Bhalchandra  
**Sent:** Friday, August 21, 2009 1:02 PM  
**To:** 'Dorman, Eugene'; 'Pechacek, Joseph'  
**Cc:** Salgado, Nancy; McHale, John; Feintuch, Karl  
**Subject:** ME1818 - ACCEPTANCE OF REQUESTED LICENSING ACTION RE: Relief Request VRR-06

**SUBJECT:** James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant (JAFNPP) – ACCEPTANCE OF REQUESTED LICENSING ACTION RE: Relief Request VRR-06 (TAC NO. ME1818)

By letter dated July 31, 2009, Energy Nuclear Operations, Inc., the licensee, requested authorization to use an alternative to the in-service test requirements in the 2001 Edition with the 2002 and 2003 Addenda of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers *Code for Operation and Maintenance of Nuclear Power Plants*. The proposed alternative in Request VRR-06 is for the main steam safety relief valves and requests authorization to use alternative test requirements.

The purpose of this communication is to provide the results of the NRC staff's acceptance review of this relief request. The acceptance review was performed by the staff of NRC Component Performance and Testing Branch (CPTB), Division of Component Integrity, to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review. The acceptance review is also intended to identify whether the application has any readily apparent information insufficiencies in its characterization of the regulatory requirements or the licensing basis of the plant.

Pursuant to Sections 50.55a(a)(3)(i) and 50.55a(a)(3)(ii) of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), the applicant shall demonstrate that the proposed alternatives would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety, or that compliance with the specified requirements of Section 50.55a would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality or safety.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application you provided; and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the staff to proceed with its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed relief request in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. If additional information is needed for the staff to complete its technical review, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

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Relief Request VRR-06  
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From: Vaidya, Bhalchandra

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