



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

December 10, 2009

Vice President, Operations
Entergy Operations, Inc.
Grand Gulf Nuclear Station
P.O. Box 756
Port Gibson, MS 39150

**SUBJECT: GRAND GULF NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1 – ACCEPTANCE REVIEW OF
LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST FOR POWER RANGE NEUTRON
MONITORING SYSTEM (TAC NO. ME2531)**

Dear Sir or Madam:

By letter dated November 3, 2009, Entergy Operations, Inc., submitted a license amendment request for Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, Unit 1. The proposed amendment would revise the Technical Specifications to reflect the installation of the digital General Electric - Hitachi (GEH) Nuclear Measurement Analysis and Control (NUMAC) Power Range Neutron Monitoring System (PRNMS).

The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this amendment request. The acceptance review was performed 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.

Consistent with Section 50.90 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), an amendment to the license (including the technical specifications) must fully describe the changes requested, and follow as far as applicable, the form prescribed for original applications. Section 50.34 of 10 CFR addresses the content of technical information required. This section stipulates that the submittal address the design and operating characteristics, unusual or novel design features, and principal safety considerations.

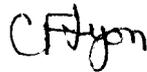
The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it provides technical information in sufficient detail to enable the staff to proceed with its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment in terms of regulatory requirements 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.

When applications for licensing actions are received, the NRC staff schedules the review activity. Implicit in this scheduling is an expectation that adequate time will be available to allow for the NRC staff to complete a thorough review of the application, including time to ask any additional questions the original application did not address and time for your staff to respond to the request for additional information (RAI).

The NRC's established timeliness performance measure is to complete 90 percent of all incoming licensing actions within 1 year and 100 percent within 2 years. This supports the NRC's goals of efficiency and reliability. In pursuing these goals, the NRC staff requires your support in the submittal of the application well in advance of the need date, and in timely submittal of RAI responses. Due to the lateness of your submittal, the limited time available for reviewing your application may prevent the NRC staff from completing the necessary review within the time frame you have requested. The NRC staff currently does not expect to complete review of your application until August 2010, because of the staff's previously scheduled work and commitments.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-2296 or via e-mail at fred.lyon@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C. Lyon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "C" and a stylized "Lyon".

Carl. F. Lyon, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch IV
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-416

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Carl. F. Lyon, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch IV
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-416

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