



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

August 6, 2010

Mr. Paul A. Harden
Site Vice President
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company
Beaver Valley Power Station
Mail Stop A-BV-SEB1
P.O. Box 4, Route 168
Shippingport, PA 15077

SUBJECT: BEAVER VALLEY POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 2 – SUPPLEMENTAL
INFORMATION NEEDED FOR ACCEPTANCE OF REQUESTED LICENSING
ACTION RE: ALTERNATIVE WELD REPAIR METHOD FOR REACTOR
VESSEL HEAD PENETRATION J-GROOVE WELDS RELIEF REQUEST (TAC
NO. ME4176)

Dear Mr. Harden:

By letter dated June 21, 2010, FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (the licensee) submitted a relief request for Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit No. 2 (BVPS-2). The proposed relief request would authorize proposed alternatives to the nondestructive examination acceptance criteria and the filler metal to be used for the part of the repair overlay that extends beyond the J-groove weld and over the stainless steel clad on the inside surface of the reactor vessel head for the remainder of the current BVPS-2 10-year inservice inspection interval, which ends August 28, 2018. The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this relief 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.

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 and concluded that the Westinghouse root cause analysis report and a description of welding issues, welding conditions, power ratio information, 52 and 52M weld wires, and the licensee's corrective actions is necessary to enable the NRC staff to 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.

P. Harden

- 2 -

In order to make the application complete, the NRC staff requests that the licensee supplement the application to address the information requested by August 18, 2010. This will enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review. If the information responsive to the NRC staff's request is not received by the above date, the application will not be accepted for review pursuant to 10 CFR 2.101, and the NRC staff will cease its review activities associated with the application. If the application is subsequently accepted for review, you will be advised of any further information needed to support the NRC staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence.

The information requested and associated time frame in this letter was discussed with Tom Lentz of your staff on July 30, 2010.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1016.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nadiyah S. Morgan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nadiyah S. Morgan, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch I-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-412

cc: Distribution via Listserv

P. Harden

- 2 -

In order to make the application complete, the NRC staff requests that the licensee supplement the application to address the information requested by August 18, 2010. This will enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review. If the information responsive to the NRC staff's request is not received by the above date, the application will not be accepted for review pursuant to 10 CFR 2.101, and the NRC staff will cease its review activities associated with the application. If the application is subsequently accepted for review, you will be advised of any further information needed to support the NRC staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence.

The information requested and associated time frame in this letter was discussed with Tom Lentz of your staff on July 30, 2010.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1016.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Nadiyah S. Morgan, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch I-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-412

cc: Distribution via Listserv

DISTRIBUTION:

PUBLIC

Branch Reading File

RidsAcrcsAcnw_MailCTR Resource

RidsNrrDciCpnb Resource

RidsNrrDorl Resource

RidsNrrDorlDpr Resource

RidsNrrDorlLpII-1 Resource

RidsNrrLASLittleResource

RidsNrrPMBeaverValley Resource

RidsOgcRp Resource

RidsRgn1MailCenter Resource

JCollins

ADAMS Accession No. ML102150039

OFFICE	DORL/LPLI-1/PM	DORL/LPLI-1/LA	DCI/CPNB/BC	DORL/LPLI-1/BC
NAME	NMorgan	SLittle	TLupold	NSalgado JBoska for
DATE	8/6/10	8/4/10	8/5/10	8/6/10

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY