

From: Tam, Peter
Sent: Monday, November 01, 2010 5:36 PM
To: Salamon, Gabor; Loeffler, Richard A.
Cc: Woodyatt, Diana; Pascarelli, Robert; Ulses, Anthony
Subject: Monticello - Draft RAI on response to Generic Letter 2008-01 re. gas accumulation in ECCS etc. (TAC MD7847)

Gabe:

By letters dated April 11, 2008 (Accession No. ML081020695), October 14, 2008 (Accession No. ML082880662), and August 14, 2009, (Accession No. ML92290180), the licensee submitted information in response to Generic Letter 2008-01 "Managing Gas Accumulation in Emergency Core Cooling, Decay Heat Removal, and Containment Spray Systems," for Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant. On the basis of the provided information, the NRC staff has concluded that additional information is needed to determine that the licensee has acceptably demonstrated "that the subject systems are in compliance with the current licensing and design bases and applicable regulatory requirements, and that suitable design, operational, and testing control measures are in place for maintaining this compliance" as stated in Generic Letter (GL) 2008-01.

You may accept this e-mail as formal RAI, and respond to it by December 1, 2010 (30 days from today). Alternatively, you may request to hold a conference call with the NRC staff to discuss the following questions, and agree on a target date by which you will provide a formal response.

Guidance on Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff expectations is provided by Reference 1, which is generally consistent with Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) guidance provided to the industry in Reference 2 as clarified in later NEI communications. The NRC staff recommends that the licensee consult Reference 1 when responding to the following questions:

1. In the Licensing Basis evaluation section, the licensee stated that Technical Specification Surveillance Requirement 3.5.1.1 does not address emergency core cooling system (ECCS) suction piping, high pressure ECCS piping, decay heat removal, or containment spray piping. What actions are being taken to ensure that the areas not addressed in the TS SR are operable?
2. Industry guidance on acceptable void criteria for suction piping has been updated since submittal of Monticello's 9-month response (see Reference 8). Please provide updated void acceptance criteria, if applicable.
3. Training was not identified in the GL but is considered to be a necessary part of applying procedures and other activities when addressing the issues identified in the GL. Please briefly discuss training.

6. O'Connor, Timothy J., "Xcel Energy; Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant, Nine-Month Supplemental (Post-Outage) Response to NRC Generic Letter 2008-01," Letter to Document Control Desk, NRC, from Site Vice President, Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant, ML092290180, August 14, 2009.
7. Warren C. Lyon, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "Revision 2 to NRC Staff Criteria for Gas Movement in Suction Lines and Pump Response to Gas," ML090900136, March 26, 2009.
8. "Guidance To NRC/NRR/DSS/SRXB Reviewers for Writing TI Suggestions for the Region Inspections," ML102300053, August 18, 2010.

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