

From: Singal, Balwant
Sent: Wednesday, November 03, 2010 9:47 AM
To: Hooper Diane M
Cc: Wideman Steven G; Frumkin, Daniel; Sun, Summer
Subject: License Amendment Request for Deviation from Fire Protection Requirements - Reactor Coolant System Subcooling During Alternative Shutdown - TAC ME4757

Diane:

By letter dated September 22, 2010, Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation (WCNOC) submitted a license amendment request for Wolf Creek Generating Station. The proposed amendment request would make changes to the approved fire protection program, as described in Updated Safety Analysis Report (USAR). WCNOC has proposed to revise USAR Table 9.5E-1 to include information on Reactor Coolant System process variables not maintained within those predicted for a loss of normal ac power. 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 following 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 the information delineated in the enclosure to this letter is necessary to enable the NRC staff to make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed [amendment/relief] request in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment.

In order to make the application complete, the NRC staff requests that WCNOC supplement the application to address the following by 11/22/10. 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 Steve Wideman Hooper of your staff on 11/3/10.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-3016.

Request for Supplement

1. Please describe what happens if the PORVs are not closed in 3 minutes. Since the current licensing basis may allow five minutes, without having considered loss of subcooling, If NRC staff approves this amendment, staff may need to unapprove the five minutes in their program.
2. With the apparent sensitivity of 3 minutes, what indications are available to the operators, unaffected by the postulated fire, the make the decision to close the power operated relief valves (PORVs).

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