



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

December 9, 2010

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 OF
AMENDMENT RE: EXTENDED POWER UPRATE (TAC NO. ME4679)

Dear Sir or Madam:

By letter dated September 8, 2010, as supplemented by letters dated November 18 and 23, 2010 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Nos. ML102660409, ML103260003, and ML103330093), Entergy Operations, Inc. (Entergy, the licensee), requested an amendment to the Facility Operating License for the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, Unit 1 (GGNS). The proposed license amendment request (LAR) would increase the maximum reactor core power operating limit from 3,898 megawatts thermal (MWt) to 4,408 MWt.

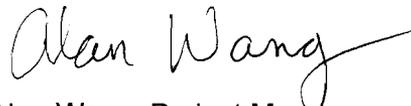
The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this amendment request. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete 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. By letter dated November 9, 2010 (ADAMS Accession No. ML103010200), the NRC informed the licensee that we had determined some information insufficiencies that needed to be addressed in order for the NRC to complete its acceptance review. By letters dated November 18 and 23, 2010, the licensee responded to this NRC request for additional information to enable the staff to make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment request in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment.

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 licensee has proposed to add a license condition with this amendment not to operate GGNS at a thermal power level above 3,898 MWt until the Power Range Neutron Monitoring System license amendment request is approved by the NRC. Based on this commitment, and the NRC staff's review of your application and supplements, the NRC staff has 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 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.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1445.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan Wang". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alan Wang, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch IV
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-416

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The licensee has proposed to add a license condition with this amendment not to operate GGNS at a thermal power level above 3,898 MWt until the Power Range Neutron Monitoring System license amendment request is approved by the NRC. Based on this commitment, and the NRC staff's review of your application and supplements, the NRC staff has 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 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.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1445.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Alan Wang, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch IV
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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ADAMS Accession No. ML103360120

OFFICE	NRR/DORL/PM	NRR/DORL/LA	NRR/DORL/BC	NRR/DORL/PM
NAME	AWang	JBurkhardt	MMarkley	AWang
DATE	12/7/10	12/3/10	12/9/10	12/9/10

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