

From: Pickett, Douglas
Sent: Wednesday, January 05, 2011 3:46 PM
To: 'Harding Jr, Thomas'
Cc: Lingam, Siva; Boyle, Patrick; Salgado, Nancy; Nove, Carol
Subject: Acceptance Review for Ginna TAC Nos. ME5248 & ME5249

Mr. Harding:

By letter dated December 16, 2010, R.E. Ginna Nuclear Power Plant, LLC submitted relief requests for the R.E. Ginna Nuclear Power Plant. The proposed relief requests from the requirements of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code are necessary because weld examinations performed during the 4th 10-year in-service inspection interval could not cover “essentially 100 percent” of the welds as required by the Code.

The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff’s acceptance review of the relief requests. 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 concludes 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 proposal 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.

Please let me know if you have any questions. A copy of this email will be made publicly available in ADAMS.

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