From: Mozafari, Brenda
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 12:41 PM
To: Castell, Curt
Cc: Saba, Farideh; Lingam, Siva
Subject: TAC ME5407 - Acceptance Review for ISI Relief Request No. 23

By letter dated January 27, 2011, Carolina Power & Light Company, now doing business as Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc., submitted a relief request for the H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant. Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i), you requested NRC approval of a proposed alternative to the interval requirements for the reactor vessel Inservice Inspection (ISI). Specifically, the alternative would extend the ISI intervals for reactor vessel welds (Examination Category B-A) and nozzle-to-vessel welds (Examination Category B-D) from 10 years to 20 years. The proposed alternative is applicable to the 4th ISI interval.

The purpose of this e-mail 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.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed relief in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. Given the lesser scope and depth of the acceptance review as compared to the detailed technical review, there may be instances in which issues that impact the NRC staff's ability to complete the detailed technical review are identified despite completion of an adequate acceptance review. You have also requested an unusually shortened schedule to support planning for the early 2012 refueling outage. We are aware of your need and will try to support. If additional information is needed, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

Brenda L. Mozafari
Senior Project Manager, NRR/DORL
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
301-415-2020
email: brenda.mozafari@nrc.gov