

From: DiFrancesco, Nicholas
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2011 11:19 AM
To: Lisa.Schofield@exeloncorp.com
Cc: jeff.hansen@exeloncorp.com; Lingam, Siva; Boyle, Patrick; Zimmerman, Jacob
Subject: Braidwood Station, Units 1 and 2 - Acceptance Review of Relief Request I3R-08, Alternative Requirements to ASME Code for Class 1 Pressure Retaining Welds (TAC NOs. ME6024 and ME6025) <ae>

Ms. Schofield,

By letter dated April 11, 2011 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML1110202631), Exelon Generation Company, LLC (EGC, the licensee) submitted a relief request for use of alternative requirements to the ASME Code for Class 1 Pressure Retaining Welds. The purpose of this letter 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.

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.

By letter dated May 25, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML111260532), the NRC staff notified EGC of specific supplemental information that needed to be submitted to enable the staff to begin its detailed technical review. By letter dated June 6, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML111580106), EGC provided the supplemental information.

The NRC staff has reviewed the supplemental information and 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 relief request in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. If additional information is needed for the NRC staff to complete its technical review, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

In accordance with our process as described in LIC-109, "Acceptance Review Procedures," I am placing a copy of this email in ADAMS as a publicly-available, official agency record.

Sincerely,

Nicholas DiFrancesco

Project Manager - Braidwood, Byron, and Clinton
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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