

July 29, 2011

Mr. Scott Head, Manager
Regulatory Affairs
Nuclear Innovation North America, LLC
4000 Avenue F
Bay City, TX 77414

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION LETTER NO. 382 RELATED TO
SRP SECTION 16 FOR THE SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT COMBINED LICENSE
APPLICATION

Dear Mr. Head:

By letter dated September 20, 2007, STP Nuclear Operating Company (STP) submitted for approval a combined license application pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 52. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is performing a detailed review of this application to enable the staff to reach a conclusion on the safety of the proposed application.

The NRC staff has identified that additional information is needed to continue portions of the review. The staff's request for additional information (RAI) is contained in the enclosure to this letter.

To support the review schedule, you are requested to respond within 30 days of the date of this letter. If changes are needed to the safety analysis report, the staff requests that the RAI response include the proposed wording changes.

S. Head

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If you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, I can be reached at 301-415-2849 or by e-mail at Stacy.Joseph@nrc.gov or you may contact George Wunder at 301-415-1494 or George.Wunder@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA Michael Eudy for Stacy Joseph/

Stacy Joseph, Project Manager
BWR Projects Branch
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos. 52-012
52-013

eRAI Tracking No. 5946

Enclosure:
Request for Additional Information

cc: William Mookhoek
Coley Chappell
G. Steve Cashell
Loree Elton

S. Head

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OFFICE	CTSB/TR	CTSB/BC	BWR/PM	BWR/L-PM
NAME	CHaruck	MKowal	SJoseph	GWunder
DATE	7/22/2011	7/22/2011	7/25/2011	7/28/2011

***Approval captured electronically in the electronic RAI system.**

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Request for Additional Information No. 5946 Revision 0

7/28/2011

South Texas Project Units 3 and 4
South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Co
Docket No. 52-012 and 52-013
SRP Section: 16 - Technical Specifications
Application Section: 16.4 Design Features; Tier 1 DCD Section 2.5

QUESTIONS for Technical Specification Branch (CTSB)

16-71

In its letter (U7-C-NINA-NRC-110098) of July 19, 2011, NINA proposed to remove the new fuel storage racks from the New Fuel Vault of the STP 3&4 ABWR design and revise Standard Departure STD DEP 9.1-1. The attachments to this letter contained a new site specific Tier 1 Departure (STP DEP T1 2.5-1) to remove the new fuel racks from the New Fuel Vault, a revision to departure STD DEP 9.1-1, and the COL application changes associated with these revisions. One of the changes associated with STP DEP T1 2.5-1 omits generic TS 4.3.1.2 (related to center to center distance between fuel assemblies) for new fuel storage from plant-specific TS Subsection 4.3.1, Criticality.

NUREG-1433, Standard Technical Specifications, General Electric Plants, BWR/4, Revision 3 (STS) 4.3.1.1.c specifies that the **spent fuel** storage racks are designed and shall be maintained with a "nominal [6.5] inch center to center distance between fuel assemblies placed in the storage racks."

STS 4.3.1.2.d specifies that the **new fuel** storage racks are designed and shall be maintained with a "nominal [6.50] inch center to center distance between fuel assemblies placed in storage racks." Like the STS, generic TS 4.3.1.2.d also specify a center to center distance between fuel assemblies placed in the storage racks. However, as noted, STD DEP T1 2.5-1 omits generic TS 4.3.1.2 for new fuel storage from plant-specific TS Subsection 4.3.1.

However, unlike STS 4.3.1.1.c, generic TS Section 4.3.1.1 is missing the provision that specifies a center to center distance between fuel assemblies placed in the spent fuel storage racks. The staff identifies the following reasons why the provision of STS 4.3.1.1.c should be added to plant-specific TS 4.3.1.1.

- The generic TS 4.3.1.2 new fuel storage requirement for nominal center to center distance between assemblies placed in the new fuel storage racks should continue to apply when the new fuel is placed in the spent fuel storage racks.
- Including this provision as plant-specific TS 4.3.1.1.c would achieve consistency with STS 4.3.1.1.c.
- The NRC staff previously rejected an industry proposal to remove this provision from STS Rev. 0, Subsection 4.3.1.1 (NUREG-1433, Rev 0, change traveler WOG-24, change C.9, was rejected by the staff on July 27, 1993.)

Enclosure

- The staff has not found an official agency record on the ABWR DC docket that contains an explicit justification for omitting this provision from the ABWR generic TS.

Therefore, the staff requests that the applicant revise departure STD DEP T1 2.5-1 to add the provision of STS 4.3.1.1.c to the plant-specific TS .