

October 3, 2011

Mr. Ronald A. Jones
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Development
Duke Energy
P.O. Box 1006 – EC09D
Charlotte, NC 28201-1006

SUBJECT: WILLIAM STATES LEE III NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 COMBINED
LICENSE APPLICATION REVIEW SCHEDULE REVISION

Dear Mr. Jones:

By letter dated December 12, 2007, as supplemented by letters dated January 28, 2008, February 6, 2008, and February 25, 2009, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (Duke) submitted its application to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for a combined license (COL) for two AP1000 advanced passive pressurized water reactors in accordance with the requirements contained in Part 52 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, "Licenses, Certifications and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants." On September 29, 2009, Duke submitted a supplement to Revision 1 of the environmental report regarding the construction and operation of Make-Up Pond C. As a result of this change in project scope, the NRC conducted a supplemental scoping process from May through July 2010. Supplemental audits were held regarding Make-Up Pond C and possible alternatives in August 2010 and June 2011. In a letter dated January 5, 2010 (NRC Agencywide Documents Access and Management System [ADAMS] accession number ML092660080), the NRC established the current schedule that reflected the addition of Make-Up Pond C to the Lee Nuclear Station COL application.

This letter transmits a revised schedule that takes into account the additional review of plant water use and alternatives, and reflects a rebaselining of the COL review consistent with relative priorities associated with the COL applications within the AP1000 design center and the remaining activities associated with completing the certification amendment. Below is a summary of the major public milestones for the Lee Nuclear Station COL review.

Phase of Environmental Review	Target Completion Date	
	Existing	Revised
Phase 2 – Draft EIS issued to Environmental Protection Agency	7/2011	12/2011
Phase 3 – Resolve public comments on the draft EIS	2/2012	6/2012
Phase 4 – Final EIS issued to Environmental Protection Agency	8/2012	10/2012
Phase of Safety Review		
Phase B – Advanced Final Safety Evaluation Report without Open Items	2/2012	5/2012
Phase C – ACRS Review of Advanced Final Safety Report	5/2012	8/2012
Phase D – Final SER	11/2012	11/2012
Hearing		
Mandatory Hearing	3/2013*	

* The target date for completion of the mandatory hearing is based on guidance in the SRM for SECY-10-0082, dated December 23, 2010. The SRM states that the objective for completing the mandatory hearing will be four months after the issuance of the FSER or Final Environmental Impact Statement.

The staff will continue to look for opportunities to mitigate these schedule impacts as the COL review progresses. Should you have any questions regarding the environmental review schedule, please contact Ms. Sarah Lopas at (301) 415-1147, or via e-mail to sarah.lopas@nrc.gov. If you have any questions regarding the safety review schedule, please contact Mr. Brian Hughes at 301-415-6582, or via e-mail to brian.hughes@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

David B. Matthews, Director
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos. 52-018 and 52-019

cc: See next page

Phase of Environmental Review	Target Completion Date	
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/RA/

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Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos. 52-018 and 52-019

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NRO-002

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