

NRR-PMDAPEm Resource

From: Feintuch, Karl
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2011 11:23 PM
To: 'Catron, Steve'; 'Browning, Tony'
Cc: Lupold, Timothy; Mitchell, Matthew; Fairbanks, Carolyn; Tsao, John; Cumblidge, Stephen
Subject: ME7246 - Duane Arnold - Action to approve Relief Requests NDE-R003, -R010, -R011, -R014, -R015- Acceptance Review decision

By letter dated August 31, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML11245A240), NextEra Energy Duane Arnold, LLC (the licensee) submitted a Fourth 10-Year Inservice Inspection Plan for the Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC), which contained relief requests NDE-R003, NDE-R010, NDE-R011, NDE-R014 (originally submitted for approval under application ML103160155 dated November 10, 2010), and NDE-R015 (originally submitted for approval under application ML103400074 dated December 4, 2010) , for which the licensee requested approval. These relief requests changed requirements for certain weld examinations, weld repairs and pressure test requirements.

Among the relief requests NDE-R014 had been authorized by a letter dated September 6, 2011 (ML11235A935) under Task Assignment Completion (TAC) number ME4984 and NDE-015 had been authorized by a second letter dated September 6, 2011 (ML11237A105) under TAC number ME5143. Therefore, from within the submitted Inservice Inspection Plan NDE-R003, NDE-R010, and NDE-R011 were processed by the NRC staff for acceptance review.

The purpose of this e-mail is to provide the results of the acceptance review of these relief requests by NRC staff. 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 [relief requests](#) have 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 [requests](#) 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 requests](#) 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 will be advised of any further information needed to support the NRC staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-3079.

Karl Feintuch, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch III-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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