

From: Boska, John
Sent: Friday, August 03, 2012 9:20 AM
To: Alter, Kent R
Cc: 'Shingleton, Boyd'
Subject: Acceptance Review of the License Amendment Request for the Keowee Hydro Units (ME9021)

By letter dated June 27, 2012, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, submitted a license amendment request for Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3. This document is available from the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System as accession number ML12181A312. The proposed amendment would extend the Technical Specification out of service time for the Keowee Hydro Units (KHUs) to allow for extended maintenance. The KHUs serve as the emergency power supply at Oconee. The purpose of this email is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this amendment request. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to commence 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.

Consistent with Section 50.90 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), an amendment to the license (including the technical specifications) must fully describe the changes requested, and follow as far as applicable the form prescribed for original applications. Section 50.34 of 10 CFR addresses the content of technical information required. This section stipulates that the submittal address the design and operating characteristics, unusual or novel design features, and principal safety considerations.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to commence its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment 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 301-415-2901.

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