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To: [BURMEISTER, BARRY M](#); [WILLIAMSON, DANNY H](#); [Joseph Clark \(JCLARK@entergy.com\)](#)
Cc: [Burkhardt, Janet](#); [Chen, Qiao-Lynn](#)
Subject: Acceptance Review of River Bend Station Appendix J Exemption Request (TAC ME9450)
Date: Thursday, September 27, 2012 11:57:02 AM

Barry, Danny, and Joey,

By letter dated August 23, 2012 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML12241A250), Entergy Operations, Inc. (Entergy, the licensee) requested an exemption related to the definition of "Pa" in Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) Section 50 Appendix J, "Primary Reactor Containment Leakage Testing for Water-Cooled Power Reactors," for the River Bend Station, Unit No. 1.

Section 50.12 of 10 CFR, "Specific exemptions," states that the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission may grant exemptions from the requirements of the regulations of this part provided three conditions are met. The three conditions are: 1) the exemption is authorized by law, 2) the exemption will not present an undue risk to the health and safety of the public, 3) the exemption is consistent with the common defense and security. In addition, the Commission will not consider granting an exemption unless special circumstances are present. Consistent with Section 50.12 of 10 CFR, in the exemption request the licensee addressed the above requirements.

The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the NRC staff's acceptance review of this exemption 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.

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

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1445.

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