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January 21, 2015

10CFR52.3

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attn: Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC  
William States Lee III Nuclear Station - Docket Nos. 52-018 and 52-019  
AP1000 Combined License Application for the William States Lee III  
Nuclear Station Units 1 and 2  
Process for Documenting Emergent Generic Changes to AP1000 Design  
Basis Information  
Ltr#: WLG2015.01-03

This letter is to inform the NRC that Duke Energy Carolinas (DEC, William States Lee Nuclear Site) is aware of potential changes to AP1000 design certification information identified by Westinghouse in connection with AP1000 facilities under construction. These potential generic design changes are currently being evaluated in accordance with ISG-11. These include but are not limited to the following:

- A departure related to changes in the AP1000 containment condensate return cooling design that had been submitted by Duke Energy Florida for the Levy COL Application. DEC also submitted a departure for this issue on September 9, 2014 (ML14274A316) and supplemented it on December 18, 2014.
- A potential change related to the calculated main control room dose following design accident scenarios. The NRC broached this issue in RAI 7661 to Duke Energy Florida (ML14259A096 and ML1425A106) .
- A potential change related to the location of hydrogen vents. The NRC raised this issue in RAI 7667 to Duke Energy Florida (ML14259A096 and ML14259A100).
- A potential change related to control room heat loads for combined non-safety and safety-related heat loads inside the Main Control Room (MCR) exceeding the steady-state passive capacity of the Emergency Habitability System (VES).

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The NRC broached this issue in RAI 7669 to Duke Energy Florida (ML14283A522).

These potential generic design changes are applicable to DEC (William States Lee Nuclear Site) as a plant referencing certified design information. Duke Energy Florida, via its Levy COL Application, is the lead AP1000 COL Applicant and is considering how these issues should be addressed, including whether they should be addressed through correction of the generic DCD, and whether such correction needs to precede COL issuance.

DEC intends to approach the issues in the same manner for the William States Lee Nuclear Site. DEC understands that if these issues are resolved through COLA changes, there is some potential that these changes could impact the NRC staff's review of the William States Lee application.

DEC is collaboratively working, via APOG with member companies in consultation with Westinghouse, to review design certification information in accordance with ISG-11 for the aforementioned issues.

DEC appreciates NRC staff engagement and looks forward to timely resolution on the aforementioned emergent generic technical issues.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact Robert H. Kitchen, Nuclear Development Licensing Director, at (704) 382-4046.

Sincerely,



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xc :

Frederick Brown, Deputy Regional Administrator, Region II

Brian Hughes, Senior Project Manager, DNRL