



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 25, 2015

Mr. Bryan C. Hanson  
President and Chief Nuclear Officer  
Exelon Nuclear  
4300 Winfield Road  
Warrenville, IL 60555

SUBJECT: PEACH BOTTOM ATOMIC POWER STATION, UNITS 2 AND 3 - RELAXATION  
OF RESPONSE DUE DATES REGARDING FLOODING HAZARD  
REEVALUATIONS FOR RECOMMENDATION 2.1 OF THE NEAR-TERM TASK  
FORCE REVIEW OF THE INSIGHTS FROM THE FUKUSHIMA DAI-ICHI  
ACCIDENT (TAC NOS. MF5648 AND MF5649)

Dear Mr. Hanson:

The purpose of this letter is to respond to your recent extension request to submit your Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station (PBAPS), Units 2 and 3 flooding hazard reevaluation report (FHRR). For background and content the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) considered the following information.

By letter dated March 12, 2012,<sup>1</sup> the NRC issued a request for information under Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Section 50.54(f) (hereafter referred to as the 50.54(f) letter). The agency issued the request as a part of implementing lessons-learned from the accident at the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant. Enclosure 2 to the 50.54(f) letter requested licensees perform a reevaluation of external flooding hazards using present-day guidance and methodologies.

By letter dated May 11, 2012,<sup>2</sup> the NRC issued a prioritization of due dates for all sites. For PBAPS, Units 2 and 3 the FHRR submission date was March 12, 2014.

By letter dated March 12, 2014,<sup>3</sup> Exelon Generation Company, LLC (Exelon) requested a 1-year extension to the submittal schedule for the FHRR for PBAPS, Units 2 and 3 with a new due date of March 12, 2015. By letter dated July 17, 2014,<sup>4</sup> the NRC issued a letter granting Exelon's request for a 1-year extension to the previously scheduled submittal date for the PBAPS Flooding Hazard Reevaluation Report.

By letter dated January 5, 2015,<sup>5</sup> Exelon requested an additional extension of 5-months to the submittal schedule for the FHRR for PBAPS, Units 2 and 3 with a new due date of August 12, 2015. As justification for the request, Exelon stated that it would require additional

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<sup>1</sup> The 50.54(f) letter is available in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under Accession No. ML12053A340.

<sup>2</sup> The prioritization letter is available under ADAMS Accession No. ML12097A509.

<sup>3</sup> The extension request from Exelon is available under ADAMS Accession No. ML14071A278.

<sup>4</sup> The extension request granted from NRC is available under ADAMS Accession No. ML14174A879.

<sup>5</sup> The extension request from Exelon is available under ADAMS Accession No. ML15006A239.

time to develop a detailed hydrologic model of the Susquehanna River watershed. In its letter, Exelon described a number of additional factors to justify the new schedule.

The NRC staff reviewed Exelon's justification and considered the following factors when reviewing the proposed new schedule:

- PBAPS has completed calculations for the site drainage response to a Local Intense Precipitation event and the Rock Run Creek probable maximum flood (PMF), and determined these flood causing mechanisms do not pose a challenge to plant safety. There are no required interim actions resulting from the completed calculations;
- The record flood of 1972 resulted in a flood level of 113.5 feet absent wave runup. The current licensing basis (CLB) for PBAPS is a postulated flood level of 132 feet and structures required for safe shutdown are protected to 135 feet;
- Exelon is developing a detailed hydrometeorological study that will produce new extreme rainfall and snowmelt parameters specific to the Susquehanna River watershed for their Conowingo Hydroelectric Dam, located downstream of PBAPS. This study is being done for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and will be integrated into the PBAPS FHRR. Additional time is required to maintain alignment between the PBAPS and Conowingo PMF studies; and
- The limited duration of the proposed extension (5-months) and the facts that: 1) PBAPS has margin between the worst recorded flood level and its CLB flood level and the protection level for any safety related equipment, and 2) the analysis completed to date has not identified the need for any interim action supports the proposed extension.

Given these considerations, the NRC considers Exelon's proposed revised schedule to be acceptable. Accordingly, and based upon the authority granted to the Director of the NRC's Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, the required response date for submitting the FHRR for PBAPS is now August 12, 2015.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, or if it is necessary to revise the submittal schedule, please contact Robert Kuntz, at (301) 415-3733 or by e-mail at [Robert.Kuntz@nrc.gov](mailto:Robert.Kuntz@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,



William M. Dean, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-277 and 50-278

cc: Listserv

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/RA/

William M. Dean, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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**ADAMS Accession No. ML15036A273**

**\*via email**

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