



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

April 27, 2015

Vice President, Operations
Entergy Operations, Inc.
Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3
17265 River Road
Killona, LA 70057-0751

SUBJECT: WATERFORD STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 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 NO. MF6086)

Dear Sir or Madam:

The purpose of this letter is to respond to your recent extension request to the submission date of your Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3 (Waterford) flooding hazard reevaluation report (FHRR). When evaluating your request, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) considered the following information.

By letter dated March 12, 2012,¹ 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, 2012,² the NRC issued a prioritization of due dates for all sites. For Waterford the FHRR submission date was March 12, 2015.

By letter dated March 5, 2015,³ Entergy Operations, Inc. (Entergy) requested an approximate 4-month extension to the submittal schedule for the FHRR for Waterford with a new due date of July 24, 2015. As justification for the request, Entergy stated that it would require additional time to refine the hazard evaluations and incorporate the results into the FHRR. In its letter, Entergy described a number of additional factors to justify the new schedule.

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

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

² The prioritization letter is available under ADAMS Accession No. ML12097A509.

³ The extension request from Entergy is available under ADAMS Accession No. ML15064A014.

- Entergy has completed walkdowns of the Waterford site and verified that existing flood barriers and protection features comply with the current Waterford flooding design-basis. During the walkdowns, no deficiencies were found and Waterford was able to verify that permanent structures, systems, and components were adequately protected from external floods and capable of performing their design function as credited in the current design basis.
- As stated in NRC letter dated March 1, 2013,⁴ "incomplete hazard reports that only contain an analysis of some flooding hazard mechanisms would not be of substantive benefit for staff and would not be acceptable." Therefore, Waterford will need to complete their Probable Maximum Hurricane, Probable Maximum Storm Surge (PMSS), and the Combined Events models and evaluations before a FHRR can be acceptably submitted to the NRC in compliance with the request in the 50.54(f) letter.
- Entergy is refining a model of a new extreme scenario where the PMSS with wind driven waves is considered in conjunction with a 25-year river flood and levee failure.

Given these factors, the NRC considers Entergy'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 Waterford is now July 24, 2015.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, or if it is necessary to revise the submittal schedule, please contact Tekia Govan, of my staff, at (301) 415-6197 or by e-mail at Tekia.Govan@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,



William M. Dean, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-382

cc: Listserv

⁴ The NRC's March 1, 2013 letter is available under ADAMS Accession No. ML13044A561.

- Entergy has completed walkdowns of the Waterford site and verified that existing flood barriers and protection features comply with the current Waterford flooding design-basis. During the walkdowns, no deficiencies were found and Waterford was able to verify that permanent structures, systems, and components were adequately protected from external floods and capable of performing their design function as credited in the current design basis.
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Sincerely,
/RA/

William M. Dean, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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***via email**

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⁹ The NRC's March 1, 2013 letter is available under ADAMS Accession No. ML13044A561.