



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

October 7, 2015

Mr. Joseph W. Shea
Vice President, Nuclear Licensing
Tennessee Valley Authority
1101 Market Street, LP 3R-C
Chattanooga TN 37402-2801

SUBJECT: WATTS BAR NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT NO. 1 – ACCEPTANCE OF
REQUESTED LICENSING ACTION RE: AMENDMENT TO ADD TECHNICAL
SPECIFICATIONS TO SUPPORT DUAL-UNIT OPERATIONS (TAC NO.
MF6376)

Dear Mr. Shea:

By letter dated June 17, 2015, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA, the licensee) submitted a license amendment request for Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (WBN), Unit 1 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML15170A474). The proposed amendment request would modify the Technical Specifications (TSs) to define support systems needed in the first 48 hours after a unit shutdown when steam generators are not available for heat removal. The proposed change is required to support dual-unit operation of WBN, if Unit 2 should receive an operating license. 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.

On July 9, 2015, the NRC issued a letter documenting the need for information supplementing the requested license amendment before the application could be accepted for review (ADAMS Accession No. ML15187A403). TVA submitted supplemental information regarding balance of plant, operator manual actions, and radiological dose on July 14, 2015 (ADAMS Accession No. ML15197A357). TVA stated in its July 14, 2015, letter that supplemental information regarding containment performance analyses would be submitted by August 14 and September 18, 2015, for Unit 2 and Unit 1 containments, respectively. TVA submitted the Unit 2 containment performance analysis on August 13, 2015 (ADAMS Accession No. ML15225A382), and the Unit 1 containment performance analysis on September 11, 2015 (ADAMS Accession No. ML15254A564), as supplemented by letter dated September 21, 2015 (ADAMS Accession No. ML15266A026).

Consistent with Section 50.90 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), an amendment to the license (including the TSs) must fully describe the changes requested, and following 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.

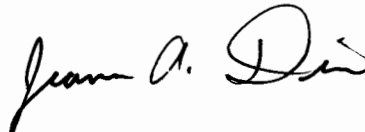
J. Shea

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The NRC staff has reviewed your application and the supplements dated July 14, August 13, September 11, and September 21, 2015, and concluded that they provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete 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) 415-1349 or jeanne.dion@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeanne A. Dion". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jeanne" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Dion".

Jeanne A. Dion, Project Manager
Watts Bar Special Projects Branch
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-390

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The NRC staff has reviewed your application and the supplements dated July 14, August 13, September 11, and September 21, 2015, and concluded that they provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete 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) 415-1349 or jeanne.dion@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jeanne A. Dion, Project Manager
 Watts Bar Special Projects Branch
 Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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ADAMS Accession No. ML15257A325

***via e-mail**

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NAME	RSchaaf	BClayton	SWeerakkody*	UShoop*
DATE	10/06/2015	10/06/2015	10/02/2015	9/30/2015
OFFICE	NRR/DSS/SBPB/BC	NRR/DSS/SCVB/BC	NRR/DORL/LPWB/BC	NRR/DORL/LPWB/PM
NAME	GCasto	RDennig*	JQuichocho	JDion
DATE	10/02/2015	9/30/2015	10/05/2015	10/07/2015

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