



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

December 1, 2015

Mr. Regis T. Repko
Senior Vice President
Governance, Projects and Engineering
Mail Code EC07H
P.O. Box 1006
Charlotte, NC 28201-1006

SUBJECT: SHEARON HARRIS NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, UNIT 1, AND H. B. ROBINSON STEAM ELECTRIC PLANT, UNIT NO. 2 - ACCEPTANCE OF REQUESTED LICENSING ACTION RE: DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS, INC.'S APPLICATION TO REVISE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS TO ADOPT METHODOLOGY REPORT DPC-NE-1008-P, REVISION 0 (CAC NOS. MF6648 AND MF6649)

Dear Mr. Repko:

By letter dated August 19, 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML15236A044), Duke Energy Progress, Inc. (Duke Energy) requested amendments to the technical specifications of Renewed Facility Operating License No. NPF-63 for the Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 1 (Harris), and Renewed Facility Operating License No. DPR-23 for the H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, Unit No. 2 (Robinson), for the review, approval, and adoption of DPC-NE-1008-P, Revision 0, "Nuclear Design Methodology Using CASMO-5/SIMULATE-3 for Westinghouse Reactors," to allow Duke Energy to perform reactor physics calculations as part of the reload design safety analysis for Shearon Harris and Robinson. Approval of the new methodology at Harris and Robinson will allow Duke Energy to perform the subject analysis at each plant, as opposed to utilizing contract services. This license amendment request (LAR) is requesting plant-specific approval of the CASMO-5/SIMULATE-3 methodology for application to Shearon Harris and Robinson only.

The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this LAR. 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 plants.

Consistent with Section 50.90 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), an amendment to the license (including the technical specifications) 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.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review for plant specific applicability at Shearon Harris and Robinson, and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendments in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment.

In its letter, Duke Energy requested approval of this LAR by December 31, 2016, to support the Shearon Harris Cycle 22 core design, expected to commence operation in spring 2018. The previously approved Duke Energy methodology CASMO-4 and other methodology submittals required over a 12 month review schedule due to the complexity of the technical review. Precedence has shown that new methodologies take between 18 to 24 months to complete the review and Duke's requested due date may not be met.

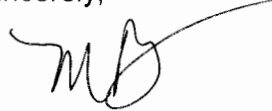
Given the lesser the scope and depth of the acceptance review as compared to the detailed technical review, there may be instances in which issues that impact the NRC staff's ability to complete the detailed technical review are identified despite completion of an adequate acceptance review. If additional information is needed, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

R. Repko

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If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-2760 or Martha.Barillas@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MB', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Martha Barillas, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-2
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-261 and 50-400

cc: Mr. Benjamin C. Waldrep
Site Vice President
Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant
5413 Shearon Harris Rd.
M/C HNP01
New Hill, NC 27562-0165

Mr. Richard Michael Glover
Site Vice President
H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant
Duke Energy
3581 West Entrance Road, RNPA01
Hartsville, SC 29550

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R. Repko

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Martha Barillas, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-2
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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| DATE | 11/10/2015 | 11/10/2015 | 11/12/2015 |
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| NAME | (RSchaaf for) BBeasley | MBarillas | |
| DATE | 12/01/2015 | 12/01/2015 | |

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