



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

January 8, 2016

MEMORANDUM TO: Michael T. Markley, Chief
Plant Licensing Branch II-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Jeffrey A. Whited, Project Manager *Jeffrey A. Whited*
Plant Licensing Branch II-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, DRAFT
REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RE: RELIEF REQUEST
ON-GRR-01 (CAC NOS. MF7130, MF7131, AND MF7132)

The attached draft request for additional information (RAI) was transmitted on December 29, 2015, to Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (Duke, the licensee). This information was transmitted in order to clarify the licensee's relief request submitted on November 23, 2015, for Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3 (ONS). In the relief request, the licensee proposes to use American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Code for Operation and Maintenance of Nuclear Power Plants, Code Case OMN-20 for the Fifth 10-Year Inservice Testing Interval for ONS.

The draft RAI was sent to the licensee to ensure that the question is understandable, the regulatory basis for the question was clear, and to determine if the information was previously docketed. Duke intends to respond to this RAI by February 5, 2016. This memorandum and the attachment do not convey or represent an NRC staff position regarding the licensee's request.

Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270, and 50-287

Attachment: Draft RAI

cc w/attachment: Distribution via Listserv

DRAFT

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

RELIEF REQUEST ON-GRR-01

USE OF CODE CASE OMN-20

OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3

DOCKET NO'S. 50-269, 50-270, AND 50-287

By letter dated November 23, 2015,¹ Duke Energy Carolinas, Inc., (Duke) submitted Relief Request ON-GRR-01, requesting relief from the frequency specifications of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Code for Operation and Maintenance of Nuclear Power Plants (ASME OM Code) by utilizing the alternate frequencies specified in Code Case OMN-20, "Inservice Test Frequency", for the Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3 (ONS). Specifically, pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 50.55a(z)(2), Duke is requesting relief on the basis that complying with frequencies as specified in the ASME OM Code would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality and safety. This relief request will apply to the Fifth 10-Year Inservice Testing (IST) Interval for ONS. To complete its review, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff requests responses to the request for additional information (RAI) question below.

Background

A Code Case is the official method of handling a reply to an inquiry when a study indicates that the Code wording needs clarification, or when the reply modifies the existing requirements of the Code, or grants permission to use alternative methods. ASME publishes Code Cases issued by the Operation and Maintenance Committee concerning the OM Code as part of the update service to the OM Code. Code Cases remain in effect for the applicable code editions and addendums, until they are annulled.

10 CFR 50.55a(b)(6), "Conditions on Operation and Maintenance of Nuclear Power Plants Code Cases," states, in part, that, "Licensees may apply the ASME Operation and Maintenance Code Cases listed in Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.192, Revision 1,^[2] without prior NRC approval." Duke lists all the applicable ASME OM Code requirements that have test frequency specifications in ON-GRR-01, but does not list any ASME OM Code Cases that may have been adopted by ONS per RG 1.192, Rev 1.

RAI-1

Please provide a list of any applicable adopted ASME OM Code Cases and/or Code Cases that might be used during the Fifth 10-year interval that will make use of ASME OM Code Case OMN-20.

¹ Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML15335A068.

² RG 1.192, "Operation and Maintenance Code Case Applicability, ASME OM Code" ADAMS Accession No. ML13340A034.

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