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September 12, 2016

RBG-47709

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Response to Request for Additional Information -- Nineteenth Fuel Cycle Core
Operating Limits Report
River Bend Station - Unit 1
Docket No. 50-458
License No. NPF-47

Reference 1.) Entergy Letter; Nineteenth Fuel Cycle Core Operating Limits Report,
Revision 2 River Bend Station -Unit 1 (RBG-47648) Dated February 11,
2016
2.) NRC email; Request for Additional Information -- RBS Nineteenth Fuel
Cycle Core Operating Limits Report, Rev 2 (CAC No. MF7561), Dated June
7, 2016

Dear Sir or Madam:

Attached is the response to the NRC Staff request for additional information (RAI) on Revision 2 of the River Bend Station (RBS) Core Operation Limits Report (COLR) for the nineteenth fuel cycle.

This letter does not contain any commitments.

ADD
NRR

For further information, please contact me at (225) 381-4177.

Sincerely,



TAC/bmb

Attachments: Response to Request for Information

cc: Regional Administrator
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region IV
1600 East Lamar Blvd.
Arlington, TX 76011-4511

NRC Senior Resident Inspector
P. O. Box 1050
St. Francisville, LA 70775

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Mr. James S. Kim
MS 8 B1A
One White Flint North
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Environmental Compliance
Radiological Emergency Planning and Response Section
Ji Young Wiley
P.O. Box 4312
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4312

Public Utility Commission of Texas
Attn: PUC Filing Clerk
1701 N. Congress Avenue
P. O. Box 13326
Austin, TX 78711-3326

RB1-16-0091
LAR 2016 - 01

Attachment

RBG-47709

Response to Request for Information

By letter dated February 11, 2016 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML16049A257), Entergy Operations, Inc. (Entergy, the licensee), submitted Revision 2 of the River Bend Station, Unit 1 (RBS) Core Operation Limits Report (COLR) for the nineteenth fuel cycle. The report was submitted in accordance with Technical Specification (TS) 5.6.5, "Core Operating Limits Report (COLR)," of Appendix A of the Facility Operating License NPF-47.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has determined that additional information is required in order to complete its review of the RBS COLR.

As mentioned in the Entergy letter, "License Amendment Request: Changes to the Analytical Methods Referenced in Technical Specification 5.6.5, 'Core Operating Limits Report (COLR),' dated October 16, 2006 (ADAMS Accession No. ML062960299), Entergy acknowledges being consistent with the guidance presented in TSTF-363, "Revise Topical Report References in its 5.6.5, COLR [Core Operating Limits Report]," in that the dates and revision numbers are contained in the referenced COLR.

Section 3.2 of the RBS COLR for Cycle 19 lists NEDE-24011-P-A, "General Electric Standard Application for Reactor Fuel (GESTART-II)," without a revision and a date, as the analytical method used to determine the parameters found in the COLR. In the Section 5.6.5 of the RBS, Unit 1, TS, there are a number of analytical methods listed used to determine the COLR parameters, including NEDE-24011-P-A, all of which do not include revisions or dates. Since there are no revisions or dates listed for the analytic methods in the TS or COLR, the staff cannot determine what analytical method was used to develop the COLR parameters.

1. Identify the revision and date of NEDE-24011-P-A that was used in the development of the COLR parameters for Cycle 19.

RESPONSE

The NEDE-24011-P-A revision used for each RBS cycle 19 COLR is 20, December 2013.

2. Section 5.6.5 of the TS contains a list of many analytical methods while the COLR only has one analytical method. The extra analytical methods appear to be related to fuel types that are no longer used at RBS. Confirm that the difference in references is related to fuel types that are no longer used or if they are not used for another reason, discuss those reasons. Additionally, discuss any plans to remove these unused references from the TS.

RESPONSE

The current fuel used in the RBS core is provided by Global Nuclear Fuel (GNF) with the analytical methods identified by item 24 in Section 5.6.5 (b) of the Technical Specifications. The remaining references (1 – 23 and 25) in Section 5.6.5 apply to fuel types previously used at RBS. These fuel types are still resident in the spent fuel pool and available for reuse if necessary. While these analytical methods are not currently in use, the fuel and analytical methods use was reviewed and approved by the NRC remain applicable to fuel available for reuse. Maintaining these analytical methods in the Technical Specifications allows for a reintroduction of these fuel types without the additional delay. Therefore, for commercial reasons RBS does not have current plans for removing reference to analytical methods 1 – 23 in Section 5.6.5 (b) of the Technical Specifications.