



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

October 12, 2016

Mr. Eric McCartney  
Site Vice President  
Seabrook Station  
NextEra Energy  
626 Lafayette Rd.  
Seabrook, NH 03874

SUBJECT: SEABROOK STATION, UNIT NO. 1 – ACCEPTANCE OF REQUESTED  
LICENSING AMENDMENT ACTION RE: ALKALI-SILICA REACTION  
(CAC NO. MF8260)

Dear Mr. McCartney:

By letter dated August 1, 2016 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML16216A240), as supplemented by letter dated September 30, 2016 (ADAMS Package Accession No. ML16279A047), NextEra Energy Seabrook, LLC (NextEra) submitted a license amendment request for the Seabrook Station, Unit No. 1. The proposed amendment would revise the Seabrook Updated Final Safety Analysis Report to include methods for analyzing seismic Category I structures with concrete affected by an alkali-silica reaction. The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this amendment request. 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.

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, including the supplemental information provided in the September 30, 2016, letter, and concluded that it does 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.

E. McCartney

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Based on the information provided in your submittal and discussions during the pre-licensing meeting on June 15, 2016, the NRC staff has estimated that this licensing request will take approximately 2000 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review in approximately 22 months, which is August 2018. If there are emergent complexities or challenges in our review that would cause changes to the initial forecasted completion date or significant changes in the forecasted hours, the reasons for the changes, along with the new estimates, will be communicated during the routine interactions with the assigned project manager.

These estimates are based on the NRC staff's initial review of the application, and they could change due to several factors, including requests for additional information, unanticipated addition of scope to the review, and review by NRC advisory committees or hearing-related activities. Additional delay may occur if the submittal is provided to the NRC in advance or in parallel with industry program initiatives or pilot applications.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-2048 or [Justin.Poole@nrc.gov](mailto:Justin.Poole@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

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

Justin C. Poole, Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch I-2  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-443

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E. McCartney

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Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Justin C. Poole, Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch I-2  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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