NRR-PMDAPEm Resource

From: Schaaf, Robert
Sent: Friday, November 25, 2016 12:52 PM
To: Gordon Arent; Wells, Russell Douglas
Cc: Saba, Farideh; Nadel, Jared; 'Edmondson, Carla'; Dion, Jeanne
Subject: Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2 – Acceptance for Review – Request for One-Time Extension of Surveillance Requirement Intervals for AC Sources (CAC Nos. MF8481 and MF8482)

Gentlemen,

By letter dated October 17, 2016 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML16291A543), the Tennessee Valley Authority submitted an amendment request for Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (WBN), Units 1 and 2. The proposed amendment would revise the Technical Specifications (TSs) for the WBN units to allow a one-time extension of the frequency for performing TS Surveillance Requirements (SRs) related to verifying the operability of AC sources. The purpose of this e-mail is to provide you with the results of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this submittal. 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.

The NRC staff has reviewed your submittal and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to proceed with its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment in terms of regulatory requirements and 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.

Based on the information provided in your submittal, the NRC staff has estimated that this licensing request will take approximately 370 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review in approximately 7 months, which is June 2017. 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 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 301-415-6020.

Regards,

Robert G. Schaaf

Robert G. Schaaf
Senior Project Manager, Watts Bar/Bellefonte

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