

NRR-PMDAPEm Resource

From: Buckberg, Perry
Sent: Wednesday, December 21, 2016 3:42 PM
To: 'garent@tva.gov'; 'rdwells0@tva.gov'
Cc: Schaaf, Robert; Johnston (Dion), Jeanne; 'cedmonson@tva.gov'
Subject: LIC-109 Acceptance Review of the Watts Bar Nuclear Unit 2 LAR to extend certain SRs to be in conjunction with the first refueling outage. (MF8869, MF8895)

Gentlemen,

By letter dated November 23, 2016, Tennessee Valley Authority submitted a license amendment request (LAR) for Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Unit 2. The proposed amendment would revise Unit 2 Technical Specifications (TSs) Surveillance Requirement (SR) 3.0.2 to extend, on a one-time basis, certain SRs that are normally performed on an 18-month frequency in conjunction with a refueling outage. The proposed change extends the due date for these SRs to October 31, 2017 which allows these SRs to be performed during the first refueling outage for WBN Unit 2. The purpose of this communication 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 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 LAR 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.

Based on the information provided in your submittal, the NRC staff has estimated that this licensing request will take approximately 996 hours to complete. The NRC staff will complete this review in two parts based on SR due dates. The NRC staff expects to complete the review of the SRs in LAR attachments 8, 10, and 11 by approximately April 13, 2017. The NRC staff expects to complete the review of the SRs in LAR attachments 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 & 17 by approximately July 24, 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 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, Perry Buckberg, at (301) 415-1383.

Thanks,

Perry Buckberg

Senior Project Manager

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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