



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

February 24, 2017

TO: THOSE ON THE ATTACHED LIST

SUBJECT: CLOSEOUT OF GENERIC LETTER 2016-01, "MONITORING OF NEUTRON-ABSORBING MATERIALS IN SPENT FUEL POOLS"

On April 7, 2016, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Generic Letter (GL) 2016-01, "Monitoring of Neutron-Absorbing Materials in Spent Fuel Pools" (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML16097A169) to address the degradation of neutron-absorbing materials in wet storage systems for reactor fuel at power and non-power reactors.

GL 2016-01 requested licensees provide information to allow the NRC staff to verify continued compliance through effective monitoring to identify and mitigate any degradation or deformation of neutron-absorbing materials credited for criticality control in spent fuel pools (SFPs).

To facilitate each licensee's response, GL 2016-01 established four categories (Category 1, Category 2, Category 3, and Category 4). The categories were established to identify situations where a detailed response to GL 2016-01 would not be required. The categorization criteria were generally based on whether a licensee credits neutron-absorbing materials for criticality control, or if a licensee has, or will soon have, an approved monitoring program for neutron-absorbing materials in the plant technical specifications or as a license condition. A full description of the categories can be found in Enclosure 1.

By letter referenced in Enclosure 2, the licensee responded to GL 2016-01. The NRC staff has completed its review of the licensee's response for the plants referenced in Enclosure 2. The NRC staff performed a thorough review of the licensee's response, any documents referenced therein, and other applicable licensing basis documents. Based on this review, the NRC staff concludes that the licensee has correctly identified that the SFP at the plant meets the criteria for the associated Category referenced in Enclosure 2, as defined in GL 2016-01.

Based upon the information submitted by the licensee in response to GL 2016-01, the NRC staff has determined that the licensee's submission appears to address the information requested in GL 2016-01, and no further information or action is requested regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Bruce A. Watson, CHP, Chief
Reactor Decommissioning Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium
Recovery, and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosures:

1. List of Categories
2. List of Plants, Category, Incoming Letters, and CAC Nos.

Closeout of Generic Letter 2016-01, "Monitoring of Neutron-Absorbing Materials in Spent Fuel Pools" – February 24, 2017

DISTRIBUTION:

PUBLIC
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 All affected plants
 Plant PM boxes
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 Regions
 TMensah, NRR
 SStuchell, NRR
 RTaylor, NRR
 SKrepel, NRR
 TCarter, NMSS

ADAMS Accession No. ML17053A590***via email**

OFFICE	DUWP/RDB/PM	DUWP/RDP/LA	DE/ESGB/ BC(A)	DPR/PGCB/BC
NAME	MVaaler	CHolston	EWong*	SStuchell*
DATE	02/23/17	02/22/17	2/13/17	2/10/17
OFFICE	DSS/SNPB/BC	DUWP/RDP/BC		
NAME	RLukes*	BWatson		
DATE	2/13/17	02/24/17		

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

LIST OF ADDRESSES

Kewaunee Power Station

Dominion Energy Kewaunee, Inc.
Docket No. 50-305
License No. DPR-43

Mr. T.R. Huber
Director Regulatory Affairs
Dominion Resource Services, Inc.
Innsbrook Technical Center
5000 Dominion Blvd., 2SE
Glen Allen, VA 23060

San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, Units 2 and 3

Southern California Edison Company
Docket Nos. 50-361 and 50-362
License Nos. NPF-10 and NPF-15

Mr. Thomas J. Palmisano
Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer
Southern California Edison Company
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station
P.O. Box 128
San Clemente, CA 92674-0128

LIST OF CATEGORIES

- Category 1: Power reactor addressees that do not credit neutron-absorbing materials other than soluble boron in the analysis of record (AOR). In some cases, no neutron-absorbing material is present in the spent fuel storage racks, and in other cases, credit for the neutron-absorbing material has been removed through a regulatory action (e.g., approved license amendment). Those addressees may submit a response letter confirming that no neutron-absorbing materials are currently credited to meet U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) subcriticality requirements in the spent fuel pool (SFP).
- Category 2: Power reactor addressees that have an approved license amendment to remove credit for existing neutron-absorbing materials and that intend to complete full implementation no later than 24 months after the issuance of this GL. Licensees may request extensions to this implementation timeframe if there are extenuating circumstances. Those addressees may submit a response letter affirming that they will implement the approved license amendment request within the specified time. However, they must still provide information equivalent to Category 3 or Category 4 for any other neutron-absorbing material credited in the SFP criticality AOR after the license amendment has been fully implemented.
- Category 3: Power reactor addressees that have incorporated their neutron-absorbing material monitoring programs into their licensing basis through an NRC-approved Technical specification (TS) change or license condition. Those addressees may submit a response letter referencing their approved TS change or license condition and affirming that no change has been made to their neutron-absorbing material monitoring program, as described in the referenced license amendment request. If a change has been made since NRC approval of the reference, the response letter should also describe any such changes. (Licensees with a monitoring program approved as part of a license amendment request or license renewal application that was not incorporated as a TS change or license condition are considered to belong in Category 4.)
- Category 4: All other power reactor addressees. The NRC seeks information in five areas depending upon the type of neutron absorber material used by the licensee in the spent fuel pool.

LIST OF PLANTS, CATEGORY, INCOMING LETTERS, AND CAC NOS.

Plant Name	Category	Incoming Letter	CAC Nos.
Kewaunee	2	ML16312A064	MF8953
San Onofre – Units 2 and 3	1	ML16182A506	MF8955 and MF8956