



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 4, 2017

Mr. Bryan C. Hanson
President and Chief Nuclear Officer
Exelon Nuclear
4300 Winfield Road
Warrenville, IL 60555

SUBJECT: NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 2 – APPROVAL OF STEAM
DRYER LONG-TERM INSPECTION PLAN (CAC NO. MF7742)

Dear Mr. Hanson:

By letter dated August 1, 2016 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML16222A388), Exelon Generation Company, LLC (Exelon, the licensee) submitted information (1) summarizing the steam dryer inspection results for the second refueling outage (RFO) post-extended power uprate (EPU) for the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2 (NMP2), (2) describing the long-term steam dryer inspection plan for NMP2, and (3) providing information to support resolution of two open items from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's review of the steam dryer inspection results for the first RFO post-EPU for NMP2. The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the NRC staff's review of the steam dryer long-term inspection plan. The NRC staff will provide separate correspondence regarding the NRC staff review of the inspection results and information to support resolution of the open items.

The NMP2 license includes the following license condition (i.e., requirement) concerning EPU:

License Condition 2.C.(20)(h):

At the end of the second refueling outage, following the implementation of the EPU, the licensee shall submit a long-term steam dryer inspection plan based on industry operating experience along with the baseline inspection results for NRC review and approval.

Exelon states that it plans to follow the steam dryer inspection guidance in Boiling Water Reactor (BWR) Vessel & Internals Project (BWRVIP)-139, "BWR Vessel and Internals Project, Steam Dryer Inspection and Flaw Evaluation Guidelines," July 2009 (ADAMS Accession No. ML101270122). The licensee stated that it plans to use the inspection results for the second RFO post-EPU as the baseline inspection as defined by BWRVIP-139. The purpose of BWRVIP-139 is to provide utility engineers with guidelines in planning for comprehensive baseline visual inspection of steam dryer assemblies. Additionally, BWRVIP-139 provides guidelines for inspecting critical locations in the steam dryer, based on configurations and relative stresses due to operating fluctuating loads, to minimize the risk of loose parts. The licensee will be conducting a third post-EPU RFO inspection, which will include all locations where the minimum alternating stress ratio falls below 2.0 without the use of velocity-induced loading. The results of this inspection will be used to determine the inspection frequency beyond the third post-EPU inspection for these locations.

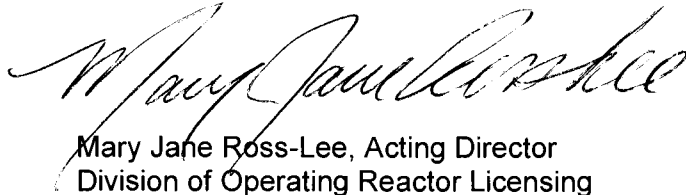
In a letter dated July 30, 2008 (ADAMS Accession No. ML080810172), the NRC staff concluded that the guidelines in BWRVIP-139 are acceptable regarding the intended function of aiding in the inspection and detection of flaws. Also, the NRC staff stated that BWRVIP-139 is

acceptable for referencing in licensing documentation for General Electric-designed BWRs. NMP2 is a General Electric-designed BWR, and there are no technical issues with the results of steam dryer inspections post-EPU that would preclude the use of BWRVIP-139.¹ Therefore, the use of the steam dryer inspection guidelines in BWRVIP-139 as a long-term inspection plan is appropriate at NMP2. As stated in the safety evaluation attached to the NRC staff's letter dated July 30, 2008, guidelines in BWRVIP-139 are capable of detecting cracks before they create loose steam dryer parts.

Based on a review of the information provided in Exelon's August 1, 2016, letter, and the prior approval of BWRVIP-139, the NRC staff concludes that there is reasonable assurance that the licensee's long-term inspection plan is appropriate for obtaining inspection results to assess the potential effects of time and/or power increases on steam dryer condition. Additionally, the NRC staff concludes that the licensee provided the information required by License Condition 2.C.(20)(h). As such, the NRC staff approves the steam dryer long-term inspection plan for use at NMP2.

If you have any questions, please contact the NMP Project Manager, Michael L. Marshall, Jr., at 301-415-2871 or by e-mail to Michael.Marshall@nrc.gov

Sincerely,



Mary Jane Ross-Lee, Acting Director
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-410

cc: Distribution via Listserv

¹ As noted at the end of the first paragraph of this letter, the NRC staff will provide the results of its review in separate correspondence.

SUBJECT: NINE MILE POINT NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 2 – APPROVAL OF STEAM DRYER LONG-TERM INSPECTION PLAN (CAC NO. MF7742) DATED APRIL 4, 2017

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