

NRR-PMDAPem Resource

From: Venkataraman, Booma
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 4:29 PM
To: Lashley, Phil H.
Cc: Danna, James
Subject: ACCEPTANCE REVIEW: Beaver Valley 1&2, License Amendment Request to revise Technical Specification 4.2.1 and 5.6.3 and a 10 CFR 50.12 Exemption Request to Implement Optimized ZIRLO Fuel Rod Cladding (CAC Nos. 9580,9581,9582 and 9583).

Expires: Tuesday, June 27, 2017 12:00 AM

Phil,

By letter dated April 9, 2017 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML17100A269), FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC, the licensee), submitted a license amendment request for Beaver Valley Power Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2. The proposed amendment would revise Technical Specification Sections 4.2.1 and 5.6.3 to allow the use of Optimized ZIRLO™ as an approved fuel rod cladding material. In the letter dated April 9, 2017, the licensee also requested an exemption from certain requirements of 10 CFR 50.46, "Acceptance criteria for emergency core cooling systems for light-water nuclear power reactors," and 10 CFR 50, Appendix K, "ECCS Evaluation Models" in accordance with 10 CFR 50.12, "Specific exemptions," to support the license amendment. The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of the above requests. 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 staff to proceed with its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment and exemption requests 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 the license amendment request will take approximately 200 hours to complete and the exemption request will take approximately 280 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete the review of both the licensing actions in approximately 12 months, which is by April, 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) 415-2934.

Sincerely, Booma

Booma Venkataraman, P.E.

Project Manager, NRR/DORL/LPL1

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Booma.Venkataraman@nrc.gov

301.415.2934

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From: Venkataraman, Booma

Created By: Booma.Venkataraman@nrc.gov

Recipients:

"Danna, James" <James.Danna@nrc.gov>

Tracking Status: None

"Lashley, Phil H." <phlashley@firstenergycorp.com>

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