



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

July 10, 2017

Mr. William F. Maguire
Site Vice President
River Bend Station, Unit 1
Entergy Operations, Inc.
5485 U.S. Highway 61 N
St. Francisville, LA 70775

SUBJECT: RIVER BEND STATION, UNIT 1 LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION –
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION NEEDED FOR ACCEPTANCE OF
REQUESTED LICENSING ACTION (CAC NO. MF9747)

Dear Mr. Maguire:

By letter dated May 25, 2017, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the staff) received the Entergy Operations, Inc. (the applicant) application for renewal of Operating License No. NPF-47 for River Bend Station, Unit 1 (RBS). Notice of receipt of this application was published in the Federal Register on June 28, 2017 (82 FR 29344). The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the NRC staff's acceptance review of this license renewal application (LRA). 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 safety and environmental 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 staff has reviewed your application following the guidance in NUREG-1800, Revision 2, "Standard Review Plan for Review of License Renewal Applications for Nuclear Power Plants," and NUREG-1555, "Standard Review Plans for Environmental Reviews for Nuclear Power Plants." As a result, the staff has determined that the application is insufficient and therefore not acceptable for docketing in accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Sections 2.101, 51.45, 51.53(c), 54.19, 54.21, 54.22, and 54.23. The most significant issues that were the basis for the insufficiency determination, are as follows:

Safety Review

- The list of transients for Class 1 components in RBS LRA Table 4.3-1 is not consistent with the transient sets defined in the subsections of Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR) Chapter 3.9.1B or in UFSAR Table 3.9B-1. With this inconsistency, the staff is unable to evaluate the fatigue monitoring methodology against specific transient sets defined for components in the UFSAR, or evaluate Entergy's acceptance of fatigue time-limited aging analysis (TLAA) for Class 1 components using 10 CFR § 54.21(c)(1)(iii) and the Fatigue Monitoring AMP.

- RBS LRA Section 4.3.3 provides the applicant's Environmentally Assisted Fatigue (EAF) analysis for Class 1 components, however the applicant did not include, address, or justify its methodology for identifying plant-specific component locations in the reactor coolant pressure boundary that may be more limiting than the components identified in NUREG/CR-6260 for the assessment. The staff is unable to evaluate the applicant's EAF methodology without the necessary supplemental information.
- Certain Class 3 support components, identified in the UFSAR, are assessed for aging effects with a cumulative usage factor (CUF) type of fatigue analysis. RBS LRA Table 3.5.2-1 identifies the analysis as a TLAA for these components, however, Section 4 of the LRA does not include any evaluation of a fatigue analysis for these components. The applicant did not demonstrate that the components were analyzed with a CUF per ASME NB-3200 or NB-3600, and did not identify or evaluate the applicable analysis in accordance with either 10 CFR 54.21(c)(1)(i), (ii), or (iii). The staff is therefore unable to evaluate the TLAAs on these components without the necessary supplemental information.

Environmental Review

- The LRA did not provide information that the staff requires in order to perform an independent review of the applicant's site-specific analysis of potential surface water use conflicts for continued operations during the license renewal term. Specifically, the staff requires the last five years' of surface water withdrawal and associated consumptive water use data in order to perform a projection of operational impacts on surface water flow. The staff cannot perform this review without the necessary supplemental information.

In order to make the application complete, the NRC staff requests that the applicant supplement the application to address the issues above. As discussed in the telephone conference call on July 6, 2017, between the NRC staff and the applicant, a supplement must be received by August 7, 2017. Currently, the staff's technical review of the RBS LRA is on hold pending successful supplementation of the RBS LRA. If after supplementation the application is accepted for review, the staff will issue the proper Federal Register notice and the staff's review schedule, and begin its detailed technical review. The applicant will be advised of any further information needed to support the staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence. If the information responsive to the NRC staff's request is not received by the above date, the application will not be accepted for review pursuant to 10 CFR 2.101, and the NRC will cease its review activities associated with the application.

We would like to emphasize the importance of the applicant submitting sufficient and detailed information in the LRA, along with applying insights and lessons learned from previous applications in order to ensure a timely review and mitigation of any further delays. We request that you inform the NRC staff as early as possible should potential delays arise in your support of this request.

W.F. Maguire

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If you have any questions on this matter, please contact Mr. Emmanuel Sayoc, Project Manager for the review of the RBS LRA, by telephone at 301-415-4084 or via e-mail at Emmanuel.Sayoc@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

George A. Wilson Jr., Director
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-458

cc: Listserv

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