



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

August 14, 2017

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

SUBJECT: LIMERICK GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 – ACCEPTANCE OF REQUESTED LICENSING ACTION RE: ADOPTION OF TSTF-542, REVISION 2, “REACTOR PRESSURE VESSEL WATER INVENTORY CONTROL” (CAC NOS. MF9967 AND MF9968)

Dear Mr. Hanson:

By letter dated July 19, 2017 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML17200D096), Exelon Generation Company, LLC submitted a license amendment for request for Limerick Generating Station, Units 1 and 2. The proposed amendment would replace existing technical specification requirements related to “operations with a potential for draining the reactor vessel” with new requirements on reactor pressure vessel water inventory control to protect Safety Limit 2.1.1.3. Safety Limit 2.1.1.3 requires reactor pressure vessel water level to be greater than the top of active irradiated fuel. The proposed changes are based on Technical Specifications Task Force (TSTF) Traveler TSTF-542, Revision 2, “Reactor Pressure Vessel Water Inventory Control.”

The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff’s acceptance review of this amendment request. 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 follow, 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.

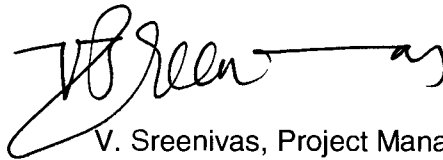
The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment in terms of regulatory requirements 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. If additional information is needed, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

Based on the information provided in your submittal, the NRC staff has estimated that this licensing request will take approximately 440 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review in approximately 7 months, which is February 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.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-2597 or [V.Sreenivas@nrc.gov](mailto:V.Sreenivas@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V. Sreenivas', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

V. Sreenivas, Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch LPL1  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-352 and 50-353

cc: Distribution via Listserv

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NAME	VSreenivas	LRonewicz	JDanna	VSreenivas
DATE	08/14/2017	08/14/2017	08/14/2017	08/14/2017

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