

NRR-DMPSPeM Resource

From: Galvin, Dennis
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 11:54 AM
To: Arthur.Zaremba@duke-energy.com
Cc: Joshua.Duc@duke-energy.com; Venkataraman, Booma; Barillas, Martha; Klett, Audrey; Mahoney, Michael; Tsao, John
Subject: Duke Energy Fleet - Acceptance Of Requested Licensing Action Re: Relief Request To Use An Alternative Depth Sizing Qualification (EPID L-2018-LLR-0117)

SUBJECT: CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION UNITS 1 AND 2, MCGUIRE NUCLEAR STATION UNITS 1 AND 2, OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, SHEARON HARRIS NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, UNIT 1, AND H. B. ROBINSON STEAM ELECTRIC PLANT, UNIT 2– ACCEPTANCE OF REQUESTED LICENSING ACTION RE: RELIEF REQUEST TO USE AN ALTERNATIVE DEPTH SIZING QUALIFICATION (EPID L-2018-LLR-0117)

Dear Mr. Zaremba:

By letter dated September 6, 2018, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC and Duke Energy Progress, LLC (the licensee) requested relief from the requirements of American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code at Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2; McGuire Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2; Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3; Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 1; and H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, Unit 2. Specifically, in Relief Request 18-GO-001, the licensee submitted its determination that conformance with certain Code requirements is impractical and requested to use an alternative depth sizing qualification in the ultrasonic examination of welds.

The purpose of this email is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the Commission) staff's acceptance review of this proposed relief 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.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(5)(iii), licensees may determine that conformance with certain Code requirements is impractical and that the licensee shall notify the Commission and submit information in support of the determination. Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(i), the Commission will evaluate determinations under paragraph (g)(5) of this section that Code requirements are impractical and that the Commission may grant such relief and may impose such alternative requirements as it determines is authorized by law and will not endanger life or property.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it provides technical information in sufficient detail to enable the staff to complete its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed relief request 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 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 staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence.

Based on the information provided in your submittal, the NRC staff has estimated that this licensing request will take approximately 225 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review by September 2019. 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, and unanticipated addition of scope to the review. 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) 415-6256.

Respectfully,

Dennis Galvin, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch 2-2
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-413, 50-414, 50-369, 50-370,
50-269, 50-270, 50-287 50-400,
and 50-261

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