

NRR-DMPSPEm Resource

From: Lamb, John
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 9:58 AM
To: Lowery, Ken G.
Subject: Acceptance Review - Vogtle Units 1 and 2 - Proposed Inservice Inspection (ISI) Alternative for Tendon ISI Extension (L-2019-LLR-0017)

Dear Mr. Lowry:

By letter dated February 18, 2019 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML19049A017), Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. (SNC) submitted a relief request for Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (Vogtle), Units 1 and 2. SNC is proposing an alternative inservice inspection (ISI) associated with the Containment ISI program for the 4th ISI interval for Vogtle Units 1 and 2.

The purpose of this e-mail is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this 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.

The NRC staff has reviewed SNC's 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, SNC will be advised by separate correspondence.

The NRC staff has estimated that this licensing request will take approximately 360 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review in approximately 12 months, which is February 2020. 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 me.

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.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

John G. Lamb, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Hearing Identifier: NRR_DMPS
Email Number: 853

Mail Envelope Properties (John.Lamb@nrc.gov20190311095800)

Subject: Acceptance Review - Vogtle Units 1 and 2 - Proposed Inservice Inspection (ISI)
Alternative for Tendon ISI Extension (L-2019-LLR-0017)
Sent Date: 3/11/2019 9:58:12 AM
Received Date: 3/11/2019 9:58:00 AM
From: Lamb, John

Created By: John.Lamb@nrc.gov

Recipients:
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Tracking Status: None

Post Office:

| Files | Size | Date & Time |
|--------------|-------------|------------------------|
| MESSAGE | 2677 | 3/11/2019 9:58:00 AM |

Options
Priority: Standard
Return Notification: No
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Sensitivity: Normal
Expiration Date:
Recipients Received: