

**From:** [Hall, Randy](#)  
**To:** [JAMIEMCO@SOUTHERNCO.COM](mailto:JAMIEMCO@SOUTHERNCO.COM)  
**Cc:** [Joyce, Ryan M. \(RMJOYCE@southernco.com\)](#); [Enfinger, Timothy Lee](#); [Lamb, John](#)  
**Subject:** NRC Acceptance Review for Hatch 1 and 2 - LAR to Adopt TSTF-51, EPID L-2019-LLA-0091)  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2019 3:39:00 PM

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May 21, 2019

Ms. Jamie Coleman  
Licensing Manager  
Southern Nuclear Operating Company

Dear Ms. Coleman,

By letter dated April 24, 2019, Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. (SNC) submitted a license amendment request (LAR) for the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2 (Hatch), (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML19114A456; EPID L-2019-LLA-0091). The LAR would revise the Hatch Technical Specifications to remove certain requirements for engineered safety feature systems to be operable after sufficient radioactive decay of irradiated fuel has occurred following a plant shutdown. The proposed changes are consistent with the Technical Specifications Task Force (TSTF) traveler TSTF-51, "Revise Containment Requirements During Handling of Irradiated Fuel and Core Alterations." 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 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.

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 340 staff hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review in approximately six months, by January 15, 2020, which would approximately meet your requested date of January 1, 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 between your staff and the assigned NRC 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) 415-4032, or John Lamb at (301) 415-3100.

Sincerely,

**Randy Hall, Senior Project Manager**  
**Plant Licensing Branch II-1**  
**Division of Operating Reactor Licensing**  
**Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation**  
**USNRC**  
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