

NRR-DRMA-ECapture Resource

From: Kuntz, Robert
Sent: Tuesday, July 09, 2019 1:37 PM
To: Kivi, Jeffrey L.
Subject: Acceptance of Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2 Relief Request Nos. 1-RR-5-10 and 2-RR-5-10 related to Reactor Vessel Inspection Intervals

By letter dated June 13, 2019 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML19164A166), Xcel Energy submitted an alternative request for the Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2. The proposed alternative is to the requirements of American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Section XI, IWB-2500 for reactor vessel weld examination frequencies.

The purpose of this e-mail is to provide the results of the 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.

Pursuant to Sections 50.55a(z)(1) and 50.55a(z)(2) of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), the applicant shall demonstrate that the proposed alternatives would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety, or that compliance with the specified requirements of Section 50.55a would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality or safety. 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 160 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review in approximately 12 months, which is July 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 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. 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 301-415-3733.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Kuntz, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch III
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation