

1 *General Directions: This Model SE provides the format and content to be used when preparing*
2 *the plant-specific SE of an LAR to adopt traveler TSTF-568, Revision 2. The **bolded** bracketed*
3 *information shows text that should be filled in for the specific amendment; individual licensees*
4 *would furnish site-specific nomenclature or values for these bracketed items. The italicized*
5 *wording provides guidance on what should be included in each section. The italicized wording*
6 *should not be included in the SE.*
7

8 **DRAFT MODEL SAFETY EVALUATION**

9 **BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION**

10 **TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS TASK FORCE TRAVELER**

11 **TSTF-568, REVISION 2**

12 **“REVISE APPLICABILITY OF BWR/4 TS 3.6.2.5 AND TS 3.6.3.2”**

13 **USING THE CONSOLIDATED LINE ITEM IMPROVEMENT PROCESS**

14 **(EPID L-2017-PMP-0024)**

15
16 **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

17
18 By application dated [enter date] (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System
19 (ADAMS) Accession No. [MLXXXXXXXX]), [as supplemented by letters dated [enter
20 date(s)], [name of licensee] (the licensee) submitted a license amendment request (LAR) for
21 [name of facility or facilities (abbreviated name(s)), applicable unit(s)].
22

23 The proposed changes would revise [TS 3.6.2.5, “Drywell-to-Suppression Chamber
24 Differential Pressure,” and] TS 3.6.3.2, “Primary Containment Oxygen Concentration.” The
25 proposed changes simplify and clarify the applicability statements, which if misapplied, could
26 conflict with the corresponding required actions. The proposed changes also remove the
27 undefined term “scheduled plant shutdown” and provide adequate terminal actions.
28

29 The proposed amendment is based on Technical Specifications Task Force (TSTF) traveler
30 TSTF-568, Revision 2, “Revise Applicability of BWR/4 TS 3.6.2.5 and TS 3.6.3.2” (ADAMS
31 Accession No. ML19141A122). The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the
32 Commission) approved TSTF-568, Revision 2, by letter dated [DATE] (ADAMS Accession
33 No. [ML19XXXXXXXX]). The NRC staff’s safety evaluation (SE) of the traveler was enclosed
34 with the NRC staff’s approval letter.
35

36 **[[The licensee has proposed variations from the TS changes described in traveler**
37 **TSTF-568, Revision 2. The variations are described in Section [2.2.3] of this SE and**
38 **evaluated in Section [3.3].] OR [The licensee is not proposing any variations from the TS**
39 **changes described in TSTF-568, Revision 2, or the applicable parts of the NRC staff’s SE**
40 **of TSTF-568, Revision 2.]]**
41

42 **[The supplemental letter(s) dated [enter date(s)], provided additional information that**
43 **clarified the application, did not expand the scope of the application as originally**

1 **noticed, and did not change the NRC staff's original proposed no significant hazards**
2 **consideration determination as published in the *Federal Register* on [enter date] (cite FR**
3 **reference).]**

4 5 **2.0 REGULATORY EVALUATION**

6 7 **2.1 Description of Structures, Systems, Components and TS Sections**

8
9 *{NOTE: Section 2.1.1 is only applicable for plants with Mark I containments.}*

10 11 **2.1.1 Current Drywell-to-Suppression Chamber Differential Pressure Control**

12
13 The drywell-to-suppression chamber differential pressure control is a safety-related operational
14 feature of Mark I containment designs. The TS 3.6.2.5 requires a minimum differential pressure
15 of **[1.5]** pounds per square inch differential (psid) to reduce the loss-of-coolant accident (LOCA)
16 hydrodynamic loads during the Mark I containment load definition short- and long-term
17 programs. The LOCA pool swell loads are significantly reduced because the differential
18 pressure control reduces the length of water leg in the downcomer. The LOCA vent clearing
19 and pool swell due to bubble formation would occur earlier (i.e., at a lower drywell pressure
20 resulting in lesser forces on the suppression chamber thereby increasing the safety margin for
21 containment integrity, containment internal structures, and pressure boundary). Decreasing the
22 allowable suppression chamber water level has a similar effect.

23
24 It is difficult to control the differential pressure during startup and shutdown transients. This is
25 because of the variation of the drywell heat loads from the primary and auxiliary systems and
26 because the inerting (during startup) or the de-inerting (during shutdown) of containment.
27 Inerting the containment during startup involves the addition of large volumes of nitrogen.
28 De-inerting containment during shutdown involves the addition of large volumes of air. In order
29 to allow operation during the time differential pressure control is difficult, the current TS 3.6.2.5
30 is applicable from **[24]** hours following startup after the reactor thermal power exceeds
31 **[15]** percent to **[24]** hours prior to reducing thermal power less than **[15]** percent reactor thermal
32 power (RTP) during a scheduled shutdown.

33 34 **2.1.[2] Current Containment Oxygen Concentration Requirement**

35
36 The regulation at Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 50.44,
37 "Combustible gas control for nuclear power reactors," states that for a plant with an inerted
38 containment atmosphere, the oxygen concentration in the primary containment is required to be
39 maintained below 4 percent by volume during normal plant operation. This requirement ensures
40 that an accident that produces hydrogen does not result in a combustible mixture inside the
41 primary containment. The current TS 3.6.3.2 requires primary containment oxygen
42 concentration to be less than 4 percent by volume when in Mode 1 during the period from
43 **[24]** hours after the thermal power exceeds **[15]** percent RTP following startup, and to
44 **[24]** hours prior to reducing the RTP to less than **[15]** percent RTP during next scheduled
45 shutdown. TSTF-568, Revision 2, stated that the **[24]**-hour allowance above **[15]** percent RTP
46 is provided in the primary containment oxygen concentration specification to delay inerting the
47 primary containment in a plant startup and to accelerate de-inerting for a plant shutdown. This
48 allowance is provided so that plant personnel can safely enter the primary containment without
49 breathing apparatus to perform the needed inspections and maintenance adjustments.

50

1 *{NOTE: Use this paragraph for Mark I containments.}*
2

3 The containment consists of a drywell (in the shape of an inverted light bulb), a suppression
4 chamber (in the shape of a toroid), and a network of vents which extend radially outward and
5 downward from the drywell to the suppression chamber. The containment atmosphere is
6 inerted with nitrogen gas during normal operation to prevent a combustible mixture of hydrogen
7 and oxygen from forming during accident conditions. Long-term control of post-LOCA hydrogen
8 gas concentration is accomplished by adding additional nitrogen gas and then venting the
9 primary containment through the standby gas treatment system.

10
11 *{NOTE: Use this paragraph for Mark II containments.}*
12

13 The containment consists of a drywell (in the shape of a truncated cone), a suppression
14 chamber directly below the drywell (in the shape of a right circular cylinder), and a network of
15 vertical vents extending downward from the drywell to the suppression chamber. The
16 containment atmosphere is inerted with nitrogen gas during normal operation to prevent a
17 combustible mixture of hydrogen and oxygen from forming during accident conditions.
18 Long-term control of post-LOCA hydrogen gas concentration is accomplished by adding
19 additional nitrogen gas and then venting the primary containment through the standby gas
20 treatment system.

21
22 **2.1.[3] Pressure Suppression Following a LOCA**
23

24 The drywell is immediately pressurized when a postulated line break occurs within the primary
25 containment. As drywell pressure increases, drywell atmosphere (primarily nitrogen gas) and
26 steam are blown down through the vents into the suppression pool via the downcomers. The
27 steam condenses in the suppression pool which suppresses the peak pressure in the drywell.
28 Non-condensable gases discharged into the suppression pool collect in the free air volume of
29 the suppression chamber, increasing the suppression chamber pressure. As steam is
30 condensed in the suppression pool and on the structures in the drywell, the pressure decreases
31 until the suppression chamber pressure exceeds the drywell pressure and the suppression
32 chamber-drywell vacuum breakers open and vent non-condensable gases back into the drywell.

33
34 *{NOTE: Section 2.1.4 is only applicable for plants with Mark I containments.}*
35

36 **2.1.[4] TS 3.6.2.5, "Drywell-to-Suppression Chamber Differential Pressure"**
37

38 A drywell-to-suppression chamber differential pressure limit is required to ensure the
39 containment conditions assumed in the safety analyses are met. Failure to maintain the
40 required differential pressure could result in excessive forces on the suppression chamber due
41 to higher water clearing loads from downcomer vents and higher-pressure buildup in the drywell
42 during a LOCA. Drywell-to-suppression chamber differential pressure must be controlled when
43 the primary containment is inert. The TS requires that the drywell pressure be maintained
44 \geq **[1.5]** psid above the pressure of the suppression chamber.
45

46 **2.1.[5] TS 3.6.3.2, "Primary Containment Oxygen Concentration"**
47

48 The primary containment oxygen concentration is maintained to ensure that a LOCA, a
49 postulated event that produces hydrogen, does not result in a combustible mixture inside
50 primary containment. The TS requires that the primary containment oxygen concentration be

1 maintained below 4 volume percent. Below this concentration, the primary containment is
2 inerted and no combustion can occur.

3

4 2.2 Description of Proposed Technical Specification Changes

5

6 {NOTE: Section 2.2.1 is only applicable for plants with Mark I containments.}

7

8 2.2.1 Proposed Changes to TS 3.6.2.5, "Drywell-to-Suppression Chamber
9 Differential Pressure"

10

11 The Applicability of TS 3.6.2.5, "Drywell-to-Suppression Chamber Differential Pressure," is
12 revised as shown below.

13

Current TS Applicability	Proposed TS Applicability
MODE 1 during the time period: a. From [24] hours after THERMAL POWER is > [15]% RTP following startup, to b. [24] hours prior to reducing THERMAL POWER to < [15]% RTP prior to the next scheduled reactor shutdown.	MODE 1 with THERMAL POWER > [15]% RTP.

14

15 Required Action A.1 and the completion time (CT) are revised as shown below.

16

ACTIONS

CONDITION	REQUIRED ACTION	COMPLETION TIME
A. Drywell-to-suppression chamber differential pressure not within limit.	A.1 ----- NOTE ----- <i>LCO 3.0.4.c is applicable.</i> ----- Restore differential pressure to within limit.	72 & hours

17

18

19 The NRC staff understands the overall purpose of the proposed changes is to simplify the
20 applicability statement by adding a new note and revising the CT. This change provides similar
21 operational flexibility but more closely follows established TS conventions.

22

1 **[2.2.2]** Proposed Changes to TS 3.6.3.2, "Primary Containment Oxygen
2 Concentration"

3
4 The Applicability of TS 3.6.3.2, "Primary Containment Oxygen Concentration," would be revised
5 as shown below.
6

Current TS Applicability	Proposed TS Applicability
MODE 1 during the time period: c. From [24] hours after THERMAL POWER is > [15] % RTP following startup, to d. [24] hours prior to reducing THERMAL POWER to < [15] % RTP prior to the next scheduled reactor shutdown.	MODES 1 and 2.

7
8 Required Actions A.1 and B.1 and their associated CTs are revised as shown below.
9

ACTIONS

CONDITION	REQUIRED ACTION	COMPLETION TIME
A. Primary containment oxygen concentration not within limit.	A.1 <i>----- NOTE -----</i> <i>LCO 3.0.4.c is applicable.</i> <i>-----</i> Restore oxygen concentration to within limit.	72 24 hours
B. Required Action and associated Completion Time not met.	B.1 <i>Be in MODE 3</i> Reduce THERMAL POWER to <i>≤ [15] % RTP.</i>	128 hours

10
11
12 The NRC staff understands the overall purpose of the proposed changes is to simplify the
13 applicability statement by adding a new note and revising the CT. This change provides
14 operational flexibility but more closely follows established TS conventions and requires that the
15 plant be in Mode 3 if oxygen concentration cannot be restored to within limits.
16

17 **[2.2.3 Variations]**

18
19 *{Note: If the licensee identifies variations in the LAR, other than differences in the numbering of*
20 *the TS and nomenclature, they should be described in this section.}*
21

22 2.3 Applicable Regulatory Requirements and Guidance

23
24 Section 50.90 of 10 CFR, "Application for amendment of license, construction permit, or early
25 site permit," requires that whenever a licensee desires to amend the license, application for an
26 amendment must be filed with the Commission fully describing the changes desired, and
27 following as far as applicable, the form prescribed for original applications.

1
2 Under 10 CFR 50.92(a), determinations on whether to grant an applied-for license amendment
3 are to be guided by the considerations that govern the issuance of initial licenses or construction
4 permits to the extent applicable and appropriate. Both the common standards for licenses and
5 construction permits in 10 CFR 50.40(a), and those specifically for issuance of operating
6 licenses in 10 CFR 50.57(a)(3), provide that there must be “reasonable assurance” that the
7 activities at issue will not endanger the health and safety of the public.
8

9 The regulation, 10 CFR 50.36, “Technical specifications,” establishes the regulatory
10 requirements related to the content of TSs. Section 50.36(a)(1) requires an application for an
11 operating license to include proposed TSs. A summary statement of the bases or reasons for
12 such specifications, other than those covering administrative controls, must also be included in
13 the application, but shall not become part of the TSs.
14

15 The regulation, 10 CFR 50.36(b), requires:
16

17 Each license authorizing operation of a ...utilization facility ...will include
18 technical specifications. The technical specifications will be derived from the
19 analyses and evaluation included in the safety analysis report, and amendments
20 thereto, submitted pursuant to [10 CFR] 50.34 [“Contents of applications;
21 technical information”]. The Commission may include such additional technical
22 specifications as the Commission finds appropriate.
23

24 The categories of items required to be in the TSs are listed in 10 CFR 50.36(c).
25

26 In accordance with 10 CFR 50.36(c)(2), limiting conditions for operation (LCOs) are the lowest
27 functional capability or performance levels of equipment required for safe operation of the
28 facility. When LCOs are not met, the licensee must shut down the reactor or follow any
29 remedial action permitted by the TSs until the condition can be met. In addition, 10 CFR
30 50.36(c)(2)(ii)(B) requires a TS LCO of a nuclear reactor must be established for a process
31 variable, design feature, or operating restriction that is an initial condition of a design basis
32 accident or transient analysis that either assumes the failure of or presents a challenge to the
33 integrity of a fission product barrier.
34

35 The regulation, 10 CFR 50.44(b)(2)(i), states that “All boiling water reactors with Mark I or
36 Mark II type containments must have an inerted atmosphere.” Section 50.44(a)(1) defines
37 “[i]nerted atmosphere” as a containment atmosphere with less than 4 percent of oxygen by
38 volume.
39

40 *{NOTE: Use this paragraph for Mark I containments.}*
41

42 Chapter 6.2.1.1.C, Revision 7, “Pressure-Suppression Type BWR Containments” of
43 NUREG-0800, Standard Review Plan for the Review of Safety Analysis Reports for Nuclear
44 Power Plants: LWR [Light-Water Reactor] Edition” (SRP), March 2007 (ADAMS Accession
45 No. ML063600403) states: “The acceptability of LOCA pool dynamic loads for plants with
46 Mark I containments is based on conformance with NRC acceptance criteria found in
47 NUREG-0661[, “Safety Evaluation Report Mark I Containment Long-term Program Resolution of
48 Generic Technical Activity A-7,” July 1980 (ADAMS Accession No. ML072710452).]”
49

50 The NRC staff’s guidance for the review of TSs is in Chapter 16.0, Revision 3, “Technical
51 Specifications,” of the SRP, March 2010 (ADAMS Accession No. ML100351425). As described

1 therein, as part of the regulatory standardization effort, the NRC staff has prepared Standard
2 Technical Specifications (STSs) for each of the LWR nuclear designs. Accordingly, the NRC
3 staff's review includes consideration of whether the proposed changes are consistent with the
4 applicable reference STSs (i.e., the current STSs), as modified by NRC-approved travelers.
5 The STS applicable to **[abbreviated name of facility]** is NUREG-1433, Revision 4.0, "Standard
6 Technical Specifications, General Electric Plants BWR/4," Volume 1, "Specifications," and
7 Volume 2, "Bases," April 2012 (ADAMS Accession Nos. ML12104A192 and ML12104A193,
8 respectively).

9 10 **3.0 TECHNICAL EVALUATION**

11
12 The proposed amendments are based on the NRC-approved TSTF-568, Revision 2. The NRC
13 staff also considered the regulations and guidance discussed in Section 2.3 of this SE in its
14 review.

15
16 *{NOTE: The changes to TS 3.6.2.5 discussed in Section 3.1 are only applicable to plants with*
17 *Mark I containments.}*

18 19 **3.1 PROPOSED CHANGES TO TS 3.6.2.5**

20 21 **3.1.1 Proposed Changes in the Applicability**

22
23 The licensee proposed to delete the time periods, dependent on startup and shutdown times,
24 from the applicability section and to replace them with a thermal power value. These time
25 periods are "a. From **[24]** hours after THERMAL POWER is > **[15]** percent RTP following
26 startup, to b. "**[24]** hours prior to reducing THERMAL POWER to < **[15]** percent RTP prior to the
27 next scheduled reactor shutdown." These time periods would be replaced by flexibilities and
28 requirements in the revised completion times and the inserted note referencing LCO 3.0.4.c.
29 This would result in requiring the drywell pressure during Mode 1 to be maintained above the
30 specified limit whenever the thermal power is above **[15]** percent. The current limitations of
31 applicability, dependent on startup and shutdown, were established to allow licensees
32 operational flexibilities, such as containment entry to perform maintenance and surveillances
33 while at power.

34
35 In TSTF-568, Revision 2, Attachment, General Electric (GE) Safety Communication (SC) 02-10,
36 page 4, under the heading "Corrective/Preventive Actions," item 2, it is recommended that
37 Mark I plants that use TS 3.6.2.5 should "confirm that their containment is structurally designed
38 for pool swell loads with a zero drywell-to-suppression chamber differential pressure. For these
39 plants, the Mark I containment load definition program has defined the pool swell loads
40 associated with" zero drywell-to-suppression chamber differential pressure. NUREG-0661,
41 Appendix A, Section 2.3, states that each plant with a differential pressure control (i.e.,
42 TS 3.6.2.5) perform a structural assessment to demonstrate that the containment can maintain
43 its functional capability when the differential pressure control is out-of-service (i.e., the
44 differential pressure is zero).

45
46 **[Browns Ferry, Units 1, 2, and 3/Dresden Units 2 and 3/Quad Cities, Units 1**
47 **and 2/FitzPatrick is/are]** applying the drywell-to-suppression chamber differential pressure
48 control TS 3.6.2.5. The licensee's plant-specific analysis report called PUAR [Plant Unique

1 Analysis Report] was approved by the NRC.¹ As stated in SC02-10, page 3, structural
2 assessment based on zero drywell-to-suppression chamber differential pressure pool swell load
3 definition was used to confirm the functional capability of the suppression chamber against the
4 Service Level D limit. The SC02-10 also identifies the following two major conservatisms in the
5 pool swell load definitions based on the Mark I Quarter Scale tests:
6

7 (a) The drywell pressurization test transient was based on the predicted drywell pressure
8 from the NRC approved conservative GE code M3CPT. This code predicts about
9 50 percent higher drywell pressurization than a realistic analysis using the GE-Hitachi
10 code TRACG.

11
12 (b) The break was simulated by air to pressurize the drywell, which produces a more severe
13 pool swell response than a realistic nitrogen/steam mixture and enhances the bubble
14 growth.
15

16 The NRC approval confirmed that the licensee met the acceptance criteria specified in
17 NUREG-0661, Appendix A, and reviewed and approved any exceptions the licensee took from
18 the acceptance criteria. Therefore, the NRC staff approval of the PUARs confirmed that with
19 the drywell-to-suppression chamber differential pressure out-of-service, the containment is
20 structurally designed for the pool swell loads during a large-break LOCA.
21

22 Based on the PUARs, the NRC staff finds it acceptable for the reactor to not be depressurized
23 when the differential pressure is out-of-service at \leq [15] percent RTP. Further NUREG-0661,
24 Section 3.12.7, concluded that if the differential pressure is out-of-service, the probability of
25 occurrence of a large-break LOCA, is less than $10E-7$ per reactor-year, which is sufficiently
26 small. This minimal probability of occurrence paired with the short period during which plants
27 are in the transition state of less than [15] percent rated thermal power, support the adequacy of
28 this change because the LOCA dynamic loads are not adversely affected. The NRC staff
29 determined the proposed deletion of the time periods is acceptable because they are now
30 included in the note insertion (discussed in Section 3.1.2 of this SE) and change in the CT
31 (discussed in Section 3.1.3 of this SE). In addition, the proposed change is acceptable since it
32 simplifies and clarifies the applicability statement and continues to provide the lowest functional
33 capability of equipment required for safe operation of the facility as required by 10 CFR
34 50.36(c)(2) by protecting containment integrity.
35

36 3.1.2 Proposed Changes in Required Action A.1 37

38 In accordance with approved traveler TSTF-568, Revision 2, the licensee proposed to add the
39 following note to Required Action A.1: "LCO 3.0.4.c is applicable." LCO 3.0.4 states:
40

41 When an LCO is not met, entry into a MODE or other specified condition in the
42 Applicability shall only be made:
43

- 44 a. When the associated ACTIONS to be entered permit continued operation in
45 the MODE or other specified condition in the Applicability for an unlimited
46 period of time;
47

¹ Cut and paste appropriate references here: Browns Ferry use Reference 1; Dresden use References 2, 3, and 4; Quad Cities use Reference 5; FitzPatrick use Reference 6.

- 1 b. After performance of a risk assessment addressing inoperable systems and
2 components, consideration of the results, determination of the acceptability of
3 entering the MODE or other specified condition in the Applicability, and
4 establishment of risk management actions, if appropriate; exceptions to this
5 Specification are stated in the individual Specifications, or
6
7 c. When an allowance is stated in the individual value, parameter, or other
8 Specification.
9

10 This Specification shall not prevent changes in MODES or other specified
11 conditions in the Applicability that are required to comply with ACTIONS or that
12 are part of a shutdown of the unit.
13

14 The criteria applicable to TS LCO 3.6.2.5 is LCO 3.0.4.c since this LCO establishes an
15 individual value or parameter (i.e., drywell pressure maintained above a certain value). The
16 new note will allow entry into the mode of applicability of TS LCO 3.6.2.5 with the drywell
17 pressure outside of the required limit. This note allows the licensee operational flexibility as it
18 permits entry into Mode 1 at greater than **[15]** percent RTP when drywell pressure is outside of
19 the required limit during startup configurations. The NRC staff concludes that the addition of the
20 note is acceptable because it clarifies and simplifies the intent of the current TS LCO 3.6.2.5
21 applicability statement "a." of allowing startup operation with the LCO not met.
22

23 3.1.3 Proposed Changes in the CT of Condition A 24

25 In accordance with approved traveler TSTF-568, Revision 2, the licensee proposed to change
26 the CT for Required Action A.1 from 8 hours to 72 hours. TSTF-568, Revision 2, stated the
27 proposed change will permit safe entry of personnel into the containment in Modes 1 and 2.
28 The 72 hours provides: **[24]** hours to de-inert the containment to permit safe personnel access,
29 **[24]** hours to perform the required work, and **[24]** hours to re-inert containment. The NRC staff
30 finds that the extended CT incorporates the time currently allowed through the applicability
31 statement in Section 3.1.1 of this SE. The NRC staff finds that 72 hours is reasonable to
32 conduct these activities based on operating experience and the requested completion time does
33 not present a significant change in risk given the low probability that a large line break would
34 occur during this period. Therefore, NRC staff finds this change acceptable.
35

36 3.1.4 Conclusion for Proposed Changes to TS 3.6.2.5 37

38 The NRC staff finds the changes proposed in TS 3.6.2.5 acceptable and continue to meet
39 10 CFR 50.36(c)(2) since the revised LCO provides the lowest functional capability of
40 equipment required for safe operation of the facility by protecting containment integrity.
41

42 3.2 PROPOSED CHANGES TO TS 3.6.3.2 43

44 3.2.1 Proposed Changes in the Applicability 45

46 In accordance with approved traveler TSTF-568, Revision 2, the licensee proposed to expand
47 the applicability of this LCO to Modes 1 and 2 without exception. The NRC staff finds the
48 proposed change acceptable because it is more restrictive since an unlikely LOCA event
49 leading to a degraded core that could produce hydrogen has the highest probability of
50 occurrence during Modes 1 and 2 conditions.
51

1 3.2.2 Proposed Changes in Required Action A.1

2
3 In accordance with approved traveler TSTF-568, Revision 2, the licensee proposed to add the
4 following note to Required Action A.1: "LCO 3.0.4.c is applicable." As stated in Section 3.1.2 of
5 this safety evaluation, TS LCO 3.0.4.c allows entering the mode of applicability of
6 TS LCO 3.6.3.2 with the LCO not met. Therefore, the proposed change would permit entry into
7 Modes 1 and 2 with primary containment oxygen concentration higher than the required limit.
8 The NRC staff concludes the addition of the note is acceptable because it clarifies and simplifies
9 the intent of the current TS LCO 3.6.3.2 applicability statement "a." of allowing startup operation
10 with the LCO not met.

11
12 3.2.3 Proposed Changes in the CT of Condition A

13
14 In accordance with approved traveler TSTF-568, Revision 2, the licensee proposed changing
15 the CT from 24 hours to 72 based on the following sequence of operations: allow [24] hours to
16 de-inert the containment to permit safe personnel access, allow [24] hours to perform the
17 required maintenance or repair work, and allow [24] hours to inert the containment. The NRC
18 staff determined that the presence of a higher oxygen concentration for the 72-hour CT is
19 appropriate considering the low safety significance of the change for potential accidents and the
20 additional restrictions and conservatisms in the revised applicability.

21
22 3.2.4 Proposed Changes in Required Action B.1

23
24 In accordance with approved traveler TSTF-568, Revision 2, the licensee proposed to change
25 the applicability statement of TS LCO 3.6.3.2 to Modes 1 and 2. If the oxygen concentration
26 cannot be restored within the required limit and CT of Required Action A.1, the reactor should
27 be brought to Mode 3. In this mode, the reactor would be in a hot shutdown condition (control
28 rods fully inserted) with all reactor vessel head bolts fully tensioned.

29
30 The NRC staff recognizes that on entering Mode 3, the decay heat is rapidly decreasing. Steam
31 is initially available for operating the reactor core isolation cooling/high pressure coolant
32 injection steam turbine-driven pumps until the reactor pressure and thus water temperature is
33 substantially reduced. As the decay heat continues to decrease, operators have increased time
34 and options for achieving adequate water injection using the low-pressure emergency core
35 cooling system to avoid core damage and associated generation of combustible gas.
36 Therefore, the occurrence of a LOCA leading to degraded core is highly unlikely in Mode 3.

37
38 The NRC staff finds the proposed change in Required Action B.1 acceptable because it
39 provides a more appropriate terminal action since it requires the plant to be placed in a mode in
40 which the LCO does not apply and the oxygen concentration limit is no longer required. The
41 previous terminal action allowed an indefinite period of operation at \leq [15] percent RTP.

42
43 Due to the low potential for hydrogen generation when the reactor is in Mode 3, inerting of
44 containment in Mode 3 is not needed. Therefore, the NRC staff concluded the proposed change
45 is acceptable because it continues to protect containment integrity and meets 10 CFR
46 50.36(c)(2) by providing the lowest functional capability of equipment required for safe operation
47 of the plant.
48

1 3.2.5 Proposed Changes in the CT of Condition B

2
3 In accordance with approved traveler TSTF-568, Revision 2, the licensee proposed to change
4 the Condition B CT from 8 hours to 12 hours, stating that 12 hours is a reasonable time to
5 reduce reactor power from full power conditions to Mode 3 in an orderly manner and without
6 challenging plant systems. The proposed change from 8 hours to 12 hours for bringing the
7 reactor to a hot shutdown condition from full power is acceptable to NRC staff because it is not
8 a significant change and is based on industry operating experience.

9
10 3.2.6 Conclusion for Proposed Changes to TS 3.6.3.2

11
12 The NRC staff concludes the proposed changes in the applicability statement for TS 3.6.3.2 are
13 acceptable since they are more restrictive as the applicability now extends to Modes 1 and 2
14 without exception. In addition, the occurrence of a LOCA that could lead to degraded core
15 conditions with containment de-inerted, while in Mode 3, is unlikely. Therefore, the changes
16 proposed in TS 3.6.3.2 are acceptable and continue to meet 10 CFR 50.36(c)(2).

17
18 *{Note: If the plant's TS differs from the standard TS, include the bracketed language below,*
19 *replacing the discussion of the differences as necessary. Differences should be identified by*
20 *the licensee in the LAR. For differences beyond TS numbering and nomenclature, justification*
21 *should be provided by the licensee and a more thorough evaluation of the applicability of*
22 *TSTF-568 should be included in Section 3.3. More extensive differences may be considered*
23 *exceptions to the approved traveler (i.e., may exceed the scope of what is allowable in CLIP*
24 *applications).}*

25
26 3.3 ADDITIONAL CHANGES

27
28 **[The licensee identified differences between the TSs for [abbreviated name of facility]**
29 **and NUREG-1433, upon which TSTF-568 is based. These differences included [the TS**
30 **numbering and nomenclature]. The NRC staff determined that these differences do not**
31 **affect the applicability of TSTF-568 for [plant name].]**

32
33 *{Note: If the licensee identifies variations other than differences in the numbering of the TS and*
34 *nomenclature, they should be evaluated in this section.}*

35
36 4.0 STATE CONSULTATION

37
38 In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the **[Name of State]** State official was notified
39 of the proposed issuance of the amendment on **[enter date]**. The State official had **[no]**
40 comments. **[If comments were provided, they should be addressed here].**

41
42 5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

43
44 *{NOTE: This section is to be prepared by the PM. As needed, the PM should coordinate with*
45 *NRR's Environmental Review and NEPA Branch (MENB) to determine the need for an EA.*
46 *Specific guidance on preparing EAs and considering environmental issues is contained in NRR*
47 *Office Instruction LIC-203, "Procedural Guidance for Preparing Categorical Exclusions,*
48 *Environmental Assessments, and Considering Environmental Issues."}*

49
50 The amendment changes requirements with respect to the installation or use of facility
51 components located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The NRC staff has

1 determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no
2 significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no
3 significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The
4 Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no
5 significant hazards consideration, which was published in the *Federal Register* on [DATE
6 (XX FR XXX)], and there has been no public comment on such finding. Accordingly, the
7 amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9).
8 Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment
9 need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

10 11 **6.0 CONCLUSION**

12
13 *{NOTE: This section is to be prepared by the PM.}*

14
15 The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there
16 is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by
17 operation in the proposed manner (2) there is reasonable assurance that such activities will be
18 conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the
19 amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety
20 of the public.

21 22 **7.0 REFERENCES**

23
24 *{NOTE: The references below are provided so the PM can cut and paste the appropriate*
25 *references into the footnote in Section 3.1.1 of this SE, then References 1-6 can be deleted.*
26 *However, if the PM prefers to include a reference section, then delete only those not applicable*
27 *and add all other references here. The full citation for other documents referenced throughout*
28 *this model SE can be copied from the traveler SE (ADAMS Accession No. [ML19XXXXXX]).*
29 *The DORL PM would also need to add any plant-specific references (i.e., incoming LAR, RAI*
30 *responses, etc.).}*

- 31
- 32 1. Vassallo, Domenic B., U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, letter to Hugh G. Parris,
33 Tennessee Valley Authority, "Mark I Containment Long-Term Program, Re: Browns
34 Ferry Nuclear Plant, Units 1, 2, and 3," dated May 6, 1985 (ADAMS Package Accession
35 No. ML18029A537).
 - 36
37 2. Zwolinski, John A., U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, letter to Dennis L. Farrer,
38 Commonwealth Edison Company, "Mark I Containment Long-Term Program, Re:
39 Dresden Nuclear Power Station, Unit Nos. 2, and 3," dated September 18, 1985
40 (ADAMS Accession No. ML17195A950).
 - 41
42 3. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "Safety Evaluation by the Office of Nuclear
43 Reactor Regulation Related to Mark I Containment Long-Term Program Pool Dynamic
44 Loads Review, Commonwealth Edison Company, Docket Nos. 50-237/249," dated
45 September 18, 1985 (ADAMS Accession No. ML17195A952).
 - 46
47 4. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "Safety Evaluation by the Office of Nuclear
48 Reactor Regulation Related to Mark I Containment Long-Term Program Structural
49 Review, Commonwealth Edison Company, Docket Nos. 50-237/249," dated
50 September 18, 1985 (ADAMS Accession No. ML17195A953).
- 51

- 1 5. Zwolinski, John A., U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, letter to Dennis L. Farrar,
2 Commonwealth Edison Company, "Mark I Containment Long-Term Program, Re: Quad
3 Cities Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 and 2," dated February 15, 1986 (ADAMS
4 Accession No. ML19199A123).
5
6 6. Vassallo, Domenic B., U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, letter to C. A. McNeill, Jr.,
7 Power Authority of the State of New York, "Mark I Containment Long-Term Program Re:
8 James A. Fitzpatrick Nuclear Power Plant," dated December 12, 1984 (ADAMS
9 Accession No. ML19203A093).

10

11 *{NOTE: These are the principal contributors for the model SE of the traveler. Replace these*
12 *names with those who prepared the plant-specific SE. Since this is a CLIP Traveler, the only*
13 *reviewer necessary is DSS/STSB (unless there were significant variations.)}*

14

15 Principal Contributors: A. Sallman, NRR/DSS/SXRB
16 C. Tilton, NRR/DSS/STSB

17

18 Date: