

**From:** Wall, Scott  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 20, 2020 10:54 AM  
**To:** Michael K. Scarpello  
**Cc:** Helen L Levendosky  
**Subject:** D.C. Cook Nuclear Plant Unit Nos. 1 and 2 – Acceptance of Relief Request Regarding Impracticality for Inservice Inspection for Certain Welds (EPID No. L-2020-LLR-0073)

Dear Mr. Scarpello:

By letter dated April 30, 2020 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML20132A111), Indiana Michigan Power Company submitted a license amendment request for the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2. The proposed alternative requests approval to use encoded phased array ultrasonic examination techniques as an alternative to radiographic examination as required in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section XI. The alternative request was submitted pursuant to Section 50.55a(z)(1) of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), which requires the applicant to demonstrate that the proposed alternative would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety.

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 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 exemption 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 **130 hours** to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review by **May 2021**. 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.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-2855 or e-mail at [Scott.Wall@nrc.gov](mailto:Scott.Wall@nrc.gov).

**Scott P. Wall, LSS BB, BSP**

Senior Project Manager

Division of Operating Reactor Licensing

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

301.415.2855

[Scott.Wall@nrc.gov](mailto:Scott.Wall@nrc.gov)

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**Recipients:**  
"Helen L Levendosky" <hllevendosky@aep.com>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Michael K. Scarpello" <mkscarpello@aep.com>  
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