

From: Devlin-Gill, Stephanie
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 3:57 PM
To: KGLOWERY@southernco.com
Cc: Lamb, John; Williams, Shawn
Subject: Acceptance Review - SNC Fleet LAR to Change TS 5.7, "High Radiation Area" (L-2021-LLA-0052)

Ken,

By letter dated March 25, 2021 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML21084A003), Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC, the licensee) submitted a license amendment request (LAR) for Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2; Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, Unit Nos 1 and 2; and Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2.

The amendments would revise Technical Specifications (TSs) 5.7, "High Radiation Area," to align with the Standard Technical Specifications (STS) in NUREG-1431, "Standard Technical Specifications Westinghouse Plants," Revision 4.0, and NUREG-1433, "Standard Technical Specifications General Electric BWR/4 Plants," Revision 4.0, as applicable. SNC stated that the proposed amendment will provide additional flexibility for control of access to high radiation areas, will provide commonality across the SNC fleet for administration of access to high radiation areas, and will align with the STS.

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 LAR. 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.

Consistent with Section 50.90 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), an application for an amendment to a license (including the TSs) must fully describe the changes requested, and following as far as applicable, the form prescribed for original applications. Section 50.34 of 10 CFR addresses the content of technical information required. This section stipulates that the submittal address the design and operating characteristics, unusual or novel design features, and principal safety considerations.

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 amendments 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 a request for additional information (RAI) is needed, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

Based on the information provided in your submittal, the NRC staff has estimated that this LAR will take approximately 185 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review in approximately 12 months, which is April 14, 2022. 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 RAIs, 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 and John Lamb.

stephanie

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Hearing Identifier: NRR_DRMA
Email Number: 1127

Mail Envelope Properties (BLAPR09MB6130A36AE4F7DA910CF8DDC3BD4E9)

Subject: Acceptance Review - SNC Fleet LAR to Change TS 5.7, "High Radiation Area"
(L-2021-LLA-0052)
Sent Date: 4/14/2021 3:56:36 PM
Received Date: 4/14/2021 3:56:36 PM
From: Devlin-Gill, Stephanie

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Tracking Status: None

Post Office: BLAPR09MB6130.namprd09.prod.outlook.com

Files	Size	Date & Time
MESSAGE	3982	4/14/2021 3:56:36 PM

Options

Priority: Normal

Return Notification: No

Reply Requested: No

Sensitivity: Normal

Expiration Date: