

**From:** [Doell, Marlayna](#)  
**To:** [Davis, J.Michael](#)  
**Cc:** [Weaver, Tracy](#)  
**Subject:** Duane Arnold Energy Center – Acceptance of Updated Spent Fuel Management Plan (EPID No. L-2021-LLL-0000)  
**Date:** Monday, April 26, 2021 1:35:00 PM

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Dear Mr. Davis:

By letter dated January 13, 2021 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML21014A455), as supplemented by letter dated March 31, 2021 (ADAMS Accession No. ML21090A232), NextEra Energy Duane Arnold, LLC (NEDA, the licensee) submitted an updated Spent Fuel Management Plan (SFMP) for the Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC). The updated SFMP fulfills the 10 CFR 50.54(bb) requirement to submit a SFMP to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) within two years following permanent cessation of operation of the reactor for NRC review and preliminary approval of the program by which the licensee(s) intend to manage and provide funding for the management of all irradiated fuel at the reactor facility until title and possession of the irradiated fuel is transferred to the U. S. Department of Energy for ultimate disposal. These activities are described in the site-specific decommissioning cost estimate (DCE), as well as the DAEC SFMP and the Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report (PSDAR) (see ADAMS Accession No. ML21036A160).

The purpose of this e-mail is to provide the results of the NRC staff's acceptance review of the DAEC SFMP for review and preliminary approval. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to begin 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, as supplemented, and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to begin its detailed technical review in accordance with 10 CFR 50.54(bb) and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed SFMP 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 detailed 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 80 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review by November 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, and unanticipated addition of scope to the review.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-3178 or e-mail at [marlayna.doell@nrc.gov](mailto:marlayna.doell@nrc.gov).

Cheers,  
Marlayna

Marlayna Vaaler Doell

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Decommissioning Project Manager  
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