

From: Wengert, Thomas
Sent: Friday, August 20, 2021 11:12 AM
To: Dewhirst, Linda R.
Cc: Van Der Kamp, David W.; Forland, Thomas J.; Dixon-Herrity, Jennifer
Subject: Cooper Nuclear Station - Acceptance Review of License Amendment Request
RE: Exception to Primary Containment Leakage Rate Program Requirement
(EPID L-2021-LLA-0129)

By letter dated July 20, 2021 (ADAMS Accession No. ML21202A200), Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) submitted a license amendment request for Cooper Nuclear Station (Cooper). The proposed amendment would revise Cooper Technical Specification Section 5.5.12, "Primary Containment Leakage Rate Testing Program" to allow for an exception to a leak testing requirement of the program. Specifically, NPPD has requested to extend the allowance to not vent and drain pathways during the Type A test, which have been Type B or C tested within the previous 24 calendar months of the Type A test, from 24 calendar months to 30 calendar months.

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 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.

Consistent with Section 50.90 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), an amendment to the 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 staff to proceed with its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment request 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. You will be advised of any further information needed to support the NRC staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence.

Based on the information provided in your submittal, the NRC staff has estimated that this licensing request will take approximately 225 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review by your requested date of July 20, 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 our routine interactions.

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, and review by NRC advisory committees or hearing-related activities.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Tom Wengert, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch IV
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
(301) 415-4037

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Subject: Cooper Nuclear Station - Acceptance Review of License Amendment Request
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Recipients:

"Van Der Kamp, David W." <dwvande@nppd.com>
Tracking Status: None
"Forland, Thomas J." <tjforla@nppd.com>
Tracking Status: None
"Dixon-Herrity, Jennifer" <Jennifer.Dixon-Herrity@nrc.gov>
Tracking Status: None
"Dewhirst, Linda R." <lrdewhi@nppd.com>
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