

**From:** Drake, Jason  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 22, 2021 9:21 AM  
**To:** Jones, Brian A. (RBS)  
**Cc:** Johns, Bridget Lynn; Folds, Titus; Schenk, Timothy A; Gaston, Ronald William; Lewis, John; Couture III, Philip; GNORRIS@entergy.com; Mahan, Cecil; Dixon-Herrity, Jennifer; Tseng, Ian  
**Subject:** ACCEPTANCE FOR REVIEW: River Bend Station 1 - IST Program Relief Request for PIV Testing Frequency (EPID: L-2021-LLR-0090)

Brian,

By letter dated November 29, 2021, (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML21333A187), Entergy Operations, Inc. (Entergy) submitted a proposed alternative to the requirements of American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code for Operation and Maintenance of Nuclear Power Plants (OM Code), Section ISTC-3522, "Category C Check Valves," and Subsection ISTC-3630(a) under Section ISTC-3630, "Leakage Rate for Other Than Containment Isolation Valves" for 13 pressure isolation valves (PIVs) at River Bend Station, Unit 1 (RBS). Specifically, Entergy requested NRC approval of an alternative to the OM Code PIV testing frequency, in which RBS proposes the adoption of a performance-based testing frequency for the 13 PIVs, like that established under 10 CFR 50, Appendix J, "Primary Reactor Containment Leakage Testing for Water-Cooled Power Reactors," Option B, "Performance-Based Requirements."

The purpose of this communication is to provide the results of the NRC staff's acceptance review of this alternative 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 submission 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 alternative request for approval 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 withdrawal schedule 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 70 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete the review in approximately 12 months, which will be in December 2022. If there are emergent complexities or challenges in our review that would cause changes to this 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 submission 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) 415-8378 or by e-mail at [Jason.Drake@nrc.gov](mailto:Jason.Drake@nrc.gov).

Regards,

Jason Drake

Project Manager

Division of Operating Reactor Licensing

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Phone: (301) 415-8378

**Hearing Identifier:** NRR\_DRMA  
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**Subject:** ACCEPTANCE FOR REVIEW: River Bend Station 1 - IST Program Relief  
Request for PIV Testing Frequency (EPID: L-2021-LLR-0090)  
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**From:** Drake, Jason

**Created By:** Jason.Drake@nrc.gov

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