

From: Kim, James
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 7:53 AM
To: Thomas, Brian J.
Cc: Montgomery, Richard; Danna, James
Subject: Acceptance Review - Hope Creek -Relief Request HC-I4R-220 regarding Partial Penetration Nozzle Repairs (L-2022-LLR-0003)

Mr. Thomas,

By letter dated January 7, 2022 (Agencywide Documents and Access Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML22007A026), PSEG Nuclear LLC (the licensee) submitted a relief request associated with partial penetration nozzle repairs at Hope Creek Generating Station. This relief request provides a repair technique for the WLI partial penetration nozzles by installing a weld pad in accordance with ASME Code Case N-638-x, "Similar and Dissimilar Metal Welding Using Ambient Temperature Machine GTAW Temper Bead Technique, Section XI, Division 1," ASME Code Case N-839-x, "Similar and Dissimilar Metal Welding Using Ambient Temperature SMAW Temper Bead Technique, Section XI, Division 1" or similar code case, as approved or conditionally approved by the NRC in the latest revision of Regulatory Guide 1.147, and installing a new half nozzle on to the weld pad using a partial penetration weld.

The purpose of this e-mail is to provide the results of the 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 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 relief 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. 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 160 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review in approximately 8 months, which is September 30, 2022, to support the Fall refueling outage. 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. 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 question, please contact me, James Kim, at James.Kim@nrc.gov or 301-415-4125.

James Kim, Project Manager
Branch 1, Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

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"Danna, James" <James.Danna@nrc.gov>
Tracking Status: None
"Thomas, Brian J." <Brian.Thomas@pseg.com>
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