

January 21, 2022

Docket No.: 99902096

SODI-ESP-0024
10 CFR 170.11

Ms. Cherish K. Johnson
Chief Financial Officer
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

**Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative
Fee Exemption Request for NRC Review and Discussion of
Portsmouth ESPA Template Project**

Dear Ms. Johnson:

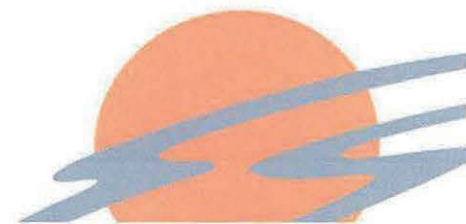
In accordance with 10 CFR 170.11, Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative (SODI) requests that the review and discussion associated with SODI project Generic Design Support Activities for Advanced Reactors (hereafter referred to as "the Project") be granted a fee waiver or exemption.

In December 2020, SODI received an award from the Department of Energy (DOE) for the Project. As an aspect of the Project, the team had an objective to start engagement with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). It is important to note that these activities do not constitute an application for an Early Site Permit (ESP), nor are there any current plans to obtain an ESP for the Portsmouth site. The engagement is focused on the following scope:

- Regular status discussions with the project management office and NRC management.
- Regulatory Engagement Plan for pre-application activities.
- Early Site Permit Application (ESPA) Template readiness review (in accordance with LIC-116, "Preapplication Readiness Assessment"). [Note that this is not intended to be equivalent to a 10 CFR Part 50 Appendix Q, "Pre-application Early Review of Site Suitability Issues" activity.] The Template will provide available Portsmouth-specific information; however, the document is intended to provide guidance for any brownfield site so as to provide benefit to the industry and generic regulatory improvements.
- Portability of ESPA Template based on Portsmouth for applicability to other brownfield sites.

This engagement will involve three to four public meetings, regular project management contact, and the pre-application readiness assessment.

This work is viewed to be a benefit to the NRC in exercising the regulatory process for previously characterized sites. This may identify lessons learned for future activities. Because NRC consideration of efforts to streamline their reviews for previously characterized sites assists the NRC in generic regulatory improvements, the project requests that the project be granted a fee waiver or exemption pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 170.11.



If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Brandon Waites at 205.992.7024.

Respectfully submitted,



Kevin Shoemaker
Project Director, Counsel
Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative

cc:

Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative

Mr. Steven L. Shepherd

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Mr. M. Denton

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Mr. B. Waites

Mr. J. Redd

Mr. R. Henderson

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