

From: Wall, Scott
Sent: Friday, September 2, 2022 11:35 AM
To: Schultz, Eric
Cc: Mack, Jarrett; Phillabaum, Jerry
Subject: Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2 – Acceptance of License Amendment and Exemptions Regarding Risk-Informed Approach to Address GSI-191

Dear Mr. Schultz:

By letter dated July 29, 2022 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML22210A086), NextEra Energy Point Beach, LLC (NextEra, the licensee) submitted license amendment and exemption requests for Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2 (Point Beach). The proposed amendments would revise the licensing basis described in the Point Beach Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR) to include a risk-informed method of evaluating the effects of loss of cooling accident (LOCA) generated debris on long-term core cooling (LTCC). The requested exemption would allow the use of risk-informed methods to evaluate the LTCC effects of debris generation resulting from a postulated LOCA in order to address the safety issues described in Generic Letter (GL) 2004-02, "Potential Impact of Debris Blockage on Emergency Recirculation During Design Basis Accidents at Pressurized-Water Reactors." The proposed license amendments and exemption requests are part of NextEra's final resolution to addressing the concerns of Generic Safety Issue (GSI-191), "Assessment of Debris Accumulation on Pressurized-Water Reactor Sump and Performance," and for responding to GL 2004-02.

The purpose of this e-mail is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of the amendment and exemption requests. 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 application for an amendment to a license (including the technical specifications) 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.

Consistent with 10 CFR 50.12, the Commission may, upon application by any interested person or upon its own initiative, grant exemptions from the requirements of the regulations of this part, which are authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to the public health and safety, and are consistent with the common defense, and security. The Commission will not consider granting an exemption unless special circumstances are present, as specified in Section 50.12(a)(2).

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 amendments and exemptions 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 the following for each amendment and exemption:

1. Amendment: LAR – Risk-Informed Approach to Address GSI-191 (GL 2004-02)
 - EPID: L-2022-LLA-0106
 - Hours to Complete: 1300 hours
 - Target Completion Date: September 2023

2. Exemption: Exemption – Risk-Informed Approach to Address GSI-191 (GL 2004-02)
 - EPID: L-2022-LLE-0026
 - Hours to Complete: 450 hours
 - Target Completion Date: September 2023

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 questions, please contact me at (301) 415-2855 or e-mail at Scott.Wall@nrc.gov.

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