From: Kimberly Green
Sent: Thursday, December 15, 2022 2:52 PM
To: Wells, Russell Douglas
Subject: Acceptance Review Results for Watts Bar, Unit 2, Alternative Request WBN-2-ISI-01 regarding Examination of Upper Head Injection Nozzle Dissimilar Metal Piping Butt Welds (EPID L-2022-LLR-0082)

Dear Mr. Wells:

By letter dated November 28, 2022 (ADAMS Accession No. ML22333A705), Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) requested an alternative to the requirements of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 50.55a(g)(6)(ii)(F) and American Society of Mechanical Engineers Code Case N-770-5 to allow a one-time extension to perform the required examinations of the upper head injection nozzle dissimilar metal piping butt welds containing Alloy 82/182 at Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, Unit 2. 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 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 request has any readily apparent information insufficiencies in its characterization of the regulatory requirements or the licensing basis of the plant.

Pursuant to Sections 50.55a(z)(1) and 50.55a(z)(2) of 10 CFR, the applicant shall demonstrate that the proposed alternatives would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety, or that compliance with the specified requirements of Section 50.55a would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality or safety.

The NRC staff has reviewed your request 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 request in terms of regulatory requirements. 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 TVA's submittal, the NRC staff has estimated that it will take approximately 110 hours to complete, and that the review can be completed by October 1, 2023. The estimate is based on the staff's initial review of the request and could change, due to several factors including requests for additional information and unanticipated addition of scope to the review. 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.

If you have any questions, please email, or contact me at (301) 415-1627.

Sincerely,
Kimberly Green, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-2

Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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"Wells, Russell Douglas" <rdwells0@tva.gov>
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