

From: Billy Gleaves
Sent: Monday, May 1, 2023 3:13 PM
To: Dorsey, Keith A.
Cc: Vogtle PEmails; Cayetano Santos; Lauren Nist (She); Chamberlain, Amy Christine; Robert Elliott; Pravin Sawant; Ryan Nolan; Hanry Wagage; Brian Wittick; Vic Cusumano; Rebecca Patton; Ravi Grover
Subject: Acceptance of Vogtle Unit 4, LAR 23-005 on "Timing of Technical Specification Effectiveness Prior to Initial Criticality"

Keith,

By letter dated April 17, 2023, SNC submitted a license amendment request for Vogtle Unit 4. The proposed amendment would revise the COL Condition to provide temporary exceptions prior to initial criticality of the reactor core for certain Unit 4 Technical Specifications while operating in Modes 4, 5, and 6. The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this amendment 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.

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.

Based on the information provided in your submittal and discussions during the pre-licensing technical exchange meeting on March 2, 2023 and the presubmittal meeting on April 13, 2023, the NRC staff have estimated that this licensing request will take approximately 350 staff-hours to complete. The NRC staff expect to complete this review by your requested, date of July 16, 2023. If there are emergent complexities or challenges in our review that would cause changes to the initial forecast completion date or significant changes in the forecast 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, audits, unanticipated additions of scope to the review, and review by NRC advisory committees or hearing-related activities.

Respectfully,

Billy

William (Billy) Gleaves
Senior Project Manager
NRR/Vogtle Project Office

US Nuclear Regulatory Commission

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