



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 13, 2023

Steven M. Snider
Site Vice President
Oconee Nuclear Station
Duke Energy Carolina, LLC
7800 Rochester Hwy
Seneca, SC 29672

**SUBJECT: REVISED SCHEDULE FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW OF THE
OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, SUBSEQUENT LICENSE
RENEWAL APPLICATION (EPID NUMBER: L-2021-SLE-0002) (DOCKET
NUMBERS: 50-269, 50-270 AND 50-287)**

Dear Steven Snider:

By letter dated January 12, 2023, Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) (ML22363A394), the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) provided a schedule for the conduct of the environmental review for Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3 (Oconee Station) in response to Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC's November 7, 2022, Oconee Nuclear Station Subsequent License Renewal Application, appendix E, Environmental Report Supplement 2 (ADAMS Accession No.: ML22311A036).

Due to several factors, the NRC staff now expects to issue the draft site-specific environmental impact statement (EIS) in January 2024 and the final site-specific EIS in August 2024. These factors include: 1) staff resource challenges related to high priority work, including initial license renewal reviews; and 2) increased workload due to receipt of multiple unplanned license renewal and subsequent license renewal applications currently in-house and expected, as well as some applications being submitted earlier than planned. Although Environmental Center of Expertise (ECO) staff continue to exercise extreme agility in reprioritizing and reassigning staff promptly when impacts are identified, some schedule delays to license renewal work are unavoidable. The NRC staff and management reviewed projects and work across the ECOE and, given the status of various projects, agreed that a delay to the subsequent license renewal schedule for Oconee was unavoidable.

Staff will continue to look for ways to introduce efficiencies and recover schedule, but the above factors continue to create risks as the project moves forward and we will continue to reprioritize work across the ECOE to minimize schedule impacts. If there are emergent complexities or challenges in our review that would cause substantive changes to the forecasted completion date, the reasons for the changes, along with the new estimates, will be communicated via separate correspondence. Please be aware that milestones for hearing activities that may be needed are not included in this revised schedule.

This revision of schedule was previously discussed with Arun Kapur and Paul Guill of your staff. If you have any questions on the revised schedule, please contact Lance Rakovan by telephone at 301-415-2589 or via email at Lance.Rakovan@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,



Signed by Regan, Christopher
on 10/13/23

Christopher M. Regan, Director
Division of Rulemaking, Environment,
and Financial Support,
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270 and 50-287

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl.: Distribution via Listserv

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DATED: October 13, 2023

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OFFICE	PM:REFS	LA:REFS	BC:REFS	DD:REFS
NAME	LRakovan	AWalker-Smith	TSmith	CRegan
DATE	10/02/2023	10/03/2023	10/03/2023	10/13/2023

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**OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3
SUBSEQUENT LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION SUPPLEMENT
REVISED ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW SCHEDULE**

Milestone	Scheduled	Actual
Receive Subsequent License Renewal Application (SLRA)	06/2021	06/07/2021
Publish <i>Federal Register</i> Notice (FRN) – SLRA Availability	06/2021	06/25/2021
Publish FRN – Docketing Acceptance/Rejection and Opportunity for Hearing	07/2021	07/28/2021
Publish FRN – Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Conduct Scoping	08/2021	08/10/2021
Public Meeting – Overview of Subsequent License Renewal Process and Environmental Scoping	09/2021	08/25/2021
Environmental Scoping Period Ends	09/11/2021	09/11/2021
Deadline for Filing Hearing Requests and Petitions for Intervention	09/2021	09/27/2021
Issue Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS)	10/2023 1/2024	
Public Meeting – Draft SEIS Meeting, If Needed	11/2023 2/2024	
End of DSEIS Comment Period	12/2023 3/2024	
Issue Safety Evaluation Report	12/2022	12/19/2022
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Full Committee Meeting	02/2023	02/02/2023
Issue Final SEIS	06/2024 8/2024	
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency FRN Published – Availability of Final SEIS	07/2024 9/2024	
Decision – Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation	07/2024 10/2024	

Enclosure