

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

June 14, 2024

Mr. Christopher D. Wilson Director, License Renewal Constellation Energy Generation, LLC 200 Exelon Way Kennet Square, PA 19348

## SUBJECT: DRESDEN NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNITS 2 AND 3 – DETERMINATION OF ACCEPTABILITY AND SUFFICIENCY FOR DOCKETING AND OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING REGARDING THE CONSTELLATION ENERGY GENERATION, LLC APPLICATION FOR SUBSEQUENT LICENSE RENEWAL

Dear Mr. Wilson:

By letter dated April 17, 2024 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Package Accession No. ML24108A007), Constellation Energy Generation, LLC (Constellation) submitted an application for subsequent license renewal of Renewed Facility Operating License Nos. DPR-19 and DPR-25 for Dresden Nuclear Power Station (Dresden), Units 2 and 3, to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC, staff). By letter dated May 1, 2024 (ML24092A341), and *Federal Register* Notice dated May 2, 2024 (89 FR 38197), the NRC noted the receipt and availability of this application. The NRC staff conducted presubmittal meetings on the general subsequent license renewal application (SLRA) process and the environmental review, as documented by letter dated July 28, 2023 (ML23193A005).

The staff's acceptance review of an application is intended to determine whether the application is reasonably complete and conforms to the timing and information requirements in applicable regulations to enable the NRC staff to begin its formal technical review. The staff reviewed the Dresden application following the guidance in NUREG-2192, Revision 0, "Standard Review Plan for Review of Subsequent License Renewal Applications for Nuclear Power Plants," and NUREG-1555, Supplement 1, Revision 1, "Standard Review Plans for Environmental Reviews for Nuclear Power Plants," to determine if the application is sufficient and acceptable for docketing in accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 51.45, "Environmental report," 51.53(c), "Postconstruction environmental reports," 54.19, "Contents of application--technical information," 54.21, "Contents of application--technical information," 54.23, "Contents of application--technical information."

During the acceptance review of the application, the staff held a conference call with the applicant to obtain clarification on information that was either associated with or supported the application. Based on this discussion, the NRC staff's understanding is that Constellation intends to provide additional information regarding the Monitoring of Neutron-Absorbing Materials Other than Boraflex aging management program. Specifically, the information will

include the determination and evaluation that the Unit 3 spent fuel pool test coupon degradation is bounding for both units consistent with NRC-approved guidance.

Based on the results of the staff's sufficiency review, the NRC staff has concluded that the application will be accepted. Given the lesser scope and depth of the acceptance review as compared to a detailed technical review, the NRC staff's determination does not preclude requests for additional information or topic-specific audits. Additionally, the determination to accept the application for docketing does not constitute a determination that a renewed operating license should be issued. During the staff's detailed technical review, there may be instances identified in which issues that impact the staff's ability to complete the detailed technical review are identified. You will be advised of any further information needed to support the NRC staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence.

The NRC staff is in the process of formulating its projected review schedule and resource estimates for the Dresden subsequent license renewal application to complete the reviews required by 10 CFR Parts 51, "Environmental Protection Regulations for Domestic Licensing and Related Regulatory Functions," and 54, "Requirements for Renewal of Operating Licenses for Nuclear Power Plants." The NRC staff will provide you with its projected review schedule and resource estimates by separate correspondence.

Enclosed is a copy of the notice related to your application that is being sent to the Office of the *Federal Register* for publication. This notice announces the acceptance for docketing of and the opportunity to request a hearing and to file a petition for leave to intervene.

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact Mark Yoo, Senior Project Manager, for the safety review of the Dresden SLRA at <u>Mark.Yoo@nrc.gov</u>, or Tam Tran, Project Manager, for the environmental review at <u>Tam.Tran@nrc.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

But Signed by Smith, Brian on 06/14/24

Brian W. Smith, Director Division of New and Renewed Licenses Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos: 50-237 and 50-249

Enclosure: Copy of *Federal Register* Notice

cc w/encls: Listserv

### C. Wilson

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#### ADAMS Accession Nos.: ML24128A273 (Package) ML24128A274 (Letter) ML24128A275 (EDN)

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|        | A275 (FRN)    | Via EConcurrence* |               | NRR-106   |
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| NAME   | MYoo          | KBratcher         | TTran         | DRoth     |
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| OFFICE | BC/ERLRB/REFS | BC/NLRP/DNRL      | D/DNRL        |           |
| NAME   | SKoenick      | LGibson           | BSmith        |           |
| DATE   | 6/14/24       | 6/14/24           | 6/14/24       |           |

## OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

# Enclosure

Copy of the Draft Federal Register Notice of DRESDEN NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNITS 2 AND 3 – Determination of Acceptability and Sufficiency for Docketing and Opportunity for a Hearing Regarding the Constellation Energy Generation, LLC for Subsequent License Renewal

ADAMS Accession No. ML24128A275