

From: Joel Wiebe
Sent: Friday, June 28, 2024 6:07 AM
To: Zurawski, Lisa M:(Constellation Nuclear)
Subject: Acceptance Review for Braidwood and Byron - Request for Exemption from 10 CFR 50.46 and Appendix K (L-2024-LLE-0019)

Hi Lisa,

By letter dated May 28, 2024 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML24149A125), Constellation Energy Generation, LLC (Constellation) submitted a request for exemption for Byron and Braidwood Stations. Specifically, Constellation requested exemption from the provisions of 10 CFR 50.46, "Acceptance criteria for emergency core cooling systems for light-water nuclear power reactors," and Appendix K to 10 CFR 50, "ECCS Evaluation Models," to allow the use of M5_{Framatome} fuel rod cladding associated with GAIA fuel assemblies. 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 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.

The NRC staff has reviewed the 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 alternative 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 that this request will take approximately 140 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review by June 18, 2025. 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.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-6606 or Joel.Wiebe@nrc.gov.

Joel

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