



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

May 28, 2025

Phil Couture
Senior Manager
Fleet Regulatory
Assurance - Licensing
1340 Echelon Parkway
Jackson, MS 39213

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE DETERMINATION FOR ENTERGY OPERATIONS,
INC. EXEMPTION REQUEST FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF
10 CFR PART 2.109(c) AND 10 CFR 52.29 (EPID L-2025-LLE-0015)

Dear Mr. Couture:

By letter dated May 2, 2025 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML25122A082), Entergy Operations, Inc. (Entergy) submitted a request for exemption from Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulation* (10 CFR) 2.109(c) and 10 CFR 52.29. Specifically, Entergy is requesting the exemption for the Grand Gulf Early Site Permit (ESP), ESP-002 to allow the ESP renewal application to be submitted no later than 45 days prior to the expiration of ESP-002, April 5, 2027, and still receive timely renewal protection.

The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or Commission) staff's acceptance review of the exemption request. In accordance with 10 CFR 50.12, "Specific exemptions," the Commission may, upon application by any interested person or upon its own initiative, grant an exemption from the requirements of the regulations in Part 50 if: (1) the exemption is authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to the public health and safety, and is consistent with the common defense and security; and (2) special circumstances are present. The NRC staff performed the acceptance review using the criteria in NRC Office Instructions LIC-103 and LIC-109 to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to initiate its detailed technical safety and environmental reviews. The acceptance review is also intended to identify whether the exemption request application has any readily apparent information gaps or if there are other issues that could interfere with meeting NRC regulatory requirements.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it provides technical safety and environmental information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to initiate its detailed safety review and meet the agency's obligations under the National Environmental Policy Act. Given the lesser scope and depth of the acceptance review as compared to the detailed technical safety and environmental reviews, there may be instances in which issues that impact the NRC staff's ability to complete the detailed technical safety and environmental reviews are identified despite completion of an adequate acceptance review. You will be advised of any further information needed to support the NRC staff's detailed review by separate correspondence.

Based on the information provided in your submittal, the NRC staff has estimated that this request will take approximately 50 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this

review by September 2, 2025, which is approximately 4 months from the date of this acceptance. If there are emergent complexities or challenges in our review that would cause changes to the initial communicated completion date or significant changes in the estimated hours, the reasons for the changes, along with the new estimates, will be communicated during the routine interactions with the project manager.

If you have any questions, please contact me at Jordan.Glisan@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jordan D. Glisan, Project Manager
Licensing and Regulatory Infrastructure Branch
Division of New and Renewed Licenses
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 52-009

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DATED: MAY 28, 2025

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