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January 15, 2026
BW260005

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Braidwood Station, Unit 1
Renewed Facility Operating License No. NPF-72
NRC Docket No. STN 50-456

Subject: Braidwood Station, Unit 1 Startup Report for the Installation of
Framatome GAIA Fuel Assemblies in Braidwood Unit 1 Cycle 26

Reference: Letter from Scott P. Wall (U.S. NRC) to David P. Rhoades (Constellation
Energy Generation, LLC), "Braidwood Station, Units 1 and 2; and Byron
Station, Units 1 and 2 – Issuance of Amendments to Revise Technical
Specifications to use Framatome GAIA Fuel (EPID L-2024-LLA-0072),"
dated August 21, 2025.

The purpose of this letter is to transmit a Startup Report for Braidwood Station Unit 1 in accordance with Technical Requirements Manual (TRM) Section 5.3.a, "Startup Report." TRM Section 5.3.a requires the submittal of a summary report of plant startup and power escalation testing within 90 days following installation of fuel that has a different design or has been manufactured by a different fuel supplier. The referenced letter allows up to 93 GAIA assemblies in the first transition cycle. Eighty-eight Framatome GAIA fuel assemblies were subsequently installed in support of Braidwood Unit 1 Cycle 26 operation during the fall 2025 refueling outage. Enclosed are the Braidwood Unit 1 Cycle 26 Startup and Power Ascension Test Results.

If there are any questions or comments regarding this submittal, please contact Mr. Dane Brunswick, Regulatory Assurance Manager, at (779) 231-6246.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'AS'.

Adam Schuerman
Site Vice President
Braidwood Station

Attachment: Braidwood Station Unit 1 Cycle 26 Startup Report

cc: NRC Regional Administrator, Region III
NRC Senior Resident Inspector – Braidwood Station