



RIC 2010

Post-COL Fuel Design License Amendments

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March 10, 2010



Purpose

- Highlight fuel design changes which might be submitted as license amendments to COLs.
- Discuss NRC expectations regarding the review of post-COL fuel design license amendments.
- Discuss expected scope of fuel design license amendments and scheduling concerns.



Expected Fuel Design License Amendment Requests

- Most fuel design related information in DCD (cladding material, grid design, etc.) is already designated as Tier 2*.
 - These are the areas expected to be addressed by fuel design COL license amendment requests.
 - The changes might impact multiple areas.
- NRC does not expect radical fuel design changes.
 - Radical fuel design changes (e.g. switching from RCCAs to control blades, changing fuel, etc.) might impact items that were designated as Tier 1.



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Expectations for the Review of Tier 2* License Amendment Requests

- A departure from a Tier 2* item is treated as a request for a license amendment under 10 CFR 50.90.
- Requires NRC review and approval.
 - Scope of amendment affects complexity of review and scheduling.



Scope of Licensing Amendments

- Review of multiple topical reports could be necessary.
 - Fuel design topical report, impacted safety analysis topical reports, etc.
 - License Amendment Requests based on approved TRs is the preferred approach.
- Scheduling
 - Important to inform NRC of tentative schedule and scope to support planning and budgeting.



Example Tier 2* Fuel Design LAR Process

- Vendor and licensee notify NRC of planned design changes and submittal schedule.
- Vendor submits Topical Report for new fuel pin cladding design and obtains NRC approval.
- COL holder submits LAR referencing the approved Topical Report.
- NRC reviews LAR and the applicability of approved Topical Report to the utility's design.
- Public may request hearing before final approval, as with any license amendment.



Summary

- Fuel design changes are expected and procedures are in place to handle various types of changes.
- Scope change will dictate schedule of the review.
- Early planning and timely submittals will help support reliable scheduling.