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JAN 23 2002

ET 02-0007

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

Reference: NRC Regulatory Issue Summary 2001-21, "Licensing Action Estimates for Operating Reactors," dated November 16, 2001

Subject: Docket No. 50-482: Response to NRC Regulatory Issue Summary 2001-21

Gentlemen:

The Reference requested that all power reactor licensees provide, on a voluntary basis, estimates of the number of new licensing action requests they plan to submit in NRC fiscal years 2002 and 2003. The Reference also requests Licensees identify by brief title those submittals expected to generate complex reviews, particularly any power uprate requests, license renewal requests, license transfer applications, or dry cask storage applications.

The Reference identifies licensing actions to include requests for license amendments, license renewals, transfers or conversions; exemptions; relief from inspection and surveillance requirements; review of topical reports submitted on a plant specific basis; power uprate requests; dry cask storage applications; Owners Group initiatives (topical reports); Technical Specification Task Force initiatives; and other licensee requests requiring the expenditure of NRC resources.

Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation (WCNOC) is a participant in an industry consortium of six plants as a result of a mutual agreement known as Strategic Teaming and Resource Sharing (STARS). The STARS group consists of the six plants operated by WCNOC, TXU Electric, AmerenUE, Pacific Gas and Electric, STP Nuclear Operating Company, and Arizona Public Service. Therefore, this letter provides information for licensing actions specific to WCNOC and generic STARS licensing actions.

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WCNOC currently plans to submit 8 new plant specific licensing action requests during NRC fiscal year 2002 and 3 licensing action requests in fiscal year 2003. Through the STARS cooperative effort, WCNOC is participating in 7 licensing action requests during fiscal year 2002 and 14 licensing action requests in fiscal year 2003. The number of common STARS group submittals may vary due to some plants already having approval of the licensing action request that the other STARS members are requesting or the licensing action request not being applicable to a specific member.

WCNOC currently has no plans to submit any power uprate requests, license renewal requests, or dry cask storage applications through the NRC fiscal years 2002 and 2003.

The Reference provided a table that licensees can use to document their estimates of licensing actions for the next 2 fiscal years. This table included providing an estimated date of submittal and estimated safety and operational benefits. The STARS members typically provide to their NRC Project Manager a status of licensing actions which typically includes an estimated date of submittal, if known. The estimated safety and operational benefit information is not readily available. As such, the STARS group does not intend to provide this information in response to the Reference.

There are no regulatory commitments made in this transmittal.

If you have any questions concerning this response, please contact me at (620) 364-4034, or Mr. Tony Harris at (620) 364-4038.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Muench', written over a horizontal line.

Richard A. Muench

RAM/rtr

cc: J. N. Donohew (NRC)
W. D. Johnson (NRC)
E. W. Mershcoff (NRC)
Senior Resident Inspector (NRC)