

18. REVIEW BY THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS

The Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) completed its review of the application from System Energy Resources, Inc. (SERI), for an early site permit (ESP) for the Grand Gulf ESP site, as well as the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's draft safety evaluation report (DSER) for this application. The ACRS ESP subcommittee began a detailed review of the Grand Gulf ESP application and the staff's DSER in April 2005. The ACRS ESP subcommittee met with representatives from SERI and the NRC staff on May 16, 2005.

The ACRS held its full committee meeting on the Grand Gulf ESP DSER on June 2, 2005. The discussions during these meetings focused on the open items identified in the DSER. On the basis of its review, the ACRS issued an interim letter report, dated June 14, 2005, which addresses the portions of the Grand Gulf ESP application that concern safety. The staff responded to the interim letter report in its letter dated August 12, 2005 (ADAMS Accession No. ML052210235). This final safety evaluation report (SER) documents the actions the staff took in response to the comments and recommendations the ACRS identified in its interim report of June 14, 2005, as described in the staff's response letter of August 15, 2005.

During its meeting with the ACRS on December 8, 2005, the staff will discuss the resolution of open items and responses to ACRS comments on the major elements of the ESP review. At the final ACRS meeting for the Grand Gulf ESP SER, the full committee will consider the staff's report, as well as the SERI Grand Gulf ESP application, and it will issue its final letter report to the Commission. The staff issued its final SER after the resolution of open items discussed in the DSER and after receiving the ACRS interim letter report to the Commission related to its review. The staff will address any comments from the ACRS in its final letter report to the Commission and will include the ACRS final letter report as an appendix to this report.

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