

November 7, 2005

ORGANIZATION: Strategic Teaming and Resource Sharing Group (STARS)

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 6, 2005 WITH STARS TO DISCUSS LICENSE RENEWAL ACTIVITIES FOR COMANCHE PEAK, DIABLO CANYON, PALO VERDE, SOUTH TEXAS, AND WOLF CREEK NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS

On October 6, 2005, representatives of STARS met with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to discuss the STARS Center of Business (COB), the STARS methodology, the status of the Wolf Creek application, and future STARS applications. Attendees at the meeting are listed in Enclosure 1. The STARS presentation materials are contained in Enclosure 2.

The STARS COB was established in 2004 at the Palo Verde site using combined utility and contractor staff. Members participating in license renewal activities include the licensees for the Comanche Peak, Diablo Canyon, Palo Verde, South Texas, and Wolf Creek Nuclear Power Plants. The Callaway Plant is also a member of STARS, but is not participating in license renewal activities. The goal of the STARS COB is to establish and apply common methodologies and documentation, leverage plant aging management programs, and realize efficiencies and cost savings for both the applicants' preparation and the NRC's review of renewal applications. The STARS group plans to submit license renewal applications sequentially. Once an application is in the final stages of preparation and approval for submittal to the NRC, the COB will begin preparation of the next application. Experience gained from the application under review would be considered in the preparation of the following applications.

The first license renewal application from a STARS plant will be submitted for Wolf Creek in September 2006. Preparation of the application is on schedule. The NRC has been informed that second and third submittals for unnamed STARS plants are planned for the fourth quarters of 2008 and 2009. Not all STARS plants have made the decision at this time to pursue license renewal.

The NRC staff cautioned that the license renewal review process is highly front loaded from a resource standpoint with the applicant needing to support audit teams, inspection teams, and responses to requests for additional information. The STARS representatives indicated that they recognize the resource needs and have taken them into consideration in establishing their schedules. The staff also encouraged the STARS group to continue monitoring the latest lessons learned from ongoing application reviews such as the level of detail needed for acceptance of a renewal application for docketing, recent issues raised by the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, and the need to avoid major licensing actions, such as power uprates, in conjunction with license renewal.

The next meeting between the NRC staff and the STARS group was tentatively scheduled for the Spring of 2007. A pre-submittal meeting for the Wolf Creek application was discussed and determined not to be needed.

/RA/

Stephen T. Hoffman, Senior Project Manager
License Renewal Branch C
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos.: 50-275, 50-323, 50-445, 50-446, 50-482,
50-498, 50-499, 50-528, 50-529, and 50-530

Enclosures: As stated

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STRATEGIC TEAMING AND RESOURCE SHARING GROUP

October 6, 2005

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