



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 9, 2012

Vice President, Operations
Entergy Operations, Inc.
Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3
17265 River Road
Killona, LA 70057-3093

SUBJECT: WATERFORD STEAM ELECTRIC STATION, UNIT 3 – REQUEST TO
REINSTATE ENFORCEMENT DISCRETION RE: LICENSE AMENDMENT
REQUEST TO TRANSITION TO NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
STANDARD 805 (TAC NO. ME7602)

Dear Sir or Madam:

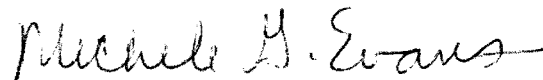
By letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) dated November 17, 2011, as supplemented on January 26, 2012 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Nos. ML113220230 and ML12027A049, respectively), Entergy Operations Inc. (the licensee), submitted a license amendment request (LAR) for the Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3 (Waterford 3). The proposed amendment would transition the fire protection licensing basis for Waterford 3 to the risk-informed, performance-based alternative based on National Fire Protection Association Standard 805 (NFPA 805).

The NRC staff reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to continue its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. The result of the review was conveyed to you by electronic mail dated February 3, 2012 (ADAMS Accession No. ML120340128).

By letter dated November 17, 2011, you also requested that enforcement discretion for fire protection issues be extended through the remaining period of NRC review of the LAR and upon approval, transitioning implementation period.

In accordance with the NRC Enforcement Policy, Section 9.1, "Enforcement Discretion for Certain Fire Protection Issues (10 CFR 50.48)," in order to regain enforcement discretion you must: 1) submit an acceptable LAR, and 2) provide appropriate justification. For the initial LAR submittals, the NRC staff determined that since the industry has not completed its review of unreviewed analysis methods (UAMs) utilized in licensees' fire probabilistic risk assessments (PRAs), a sensitivity analysis was needed for each UAM to make the submittal acceptable for review. In a letter dated July 28, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML112081640), the licensee identified multiple UAMs within its fire PRA and decided to delay the LAR submittal to prepare a sensitivity analysis for each of these UAMs. The staff has reviewed the LAR, the supplemental information, and the additional UAM sensitivity analyses and determined the LAR package is acceptable for detailed review and the UAM additional analyses provided adequate justification to reinstate enforcement discretion from the date the NRC received the LAR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michele G. Evans". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michele G. Evans, Director
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-382

cc: Distribution via Listserv

In accordance with the NRC Enforcement Policy, Section 9.1, "Enforcement Discretion for Certain Fire Protection Issues (10 CFR 50.48)," in order to regain enforcement discretion you must: 1) submit an acceptable LAR, and 2) provide appropriate justification. For the initial LAR submittals, the NRC staff determined that since the industry has not completed its review of unreviewed analysis methods (UAMs) utilized in licensees' fire probabilistic risk assessments (PRAs), a sensitivity analysis was needed for each UAM to make the submittal acceptable for review. In a letter dated July 28, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML112081640), the licensee identified multiple UAMs within its fire PRA and decided to delay the LAR submittal to prepare a sensitivity analysis for each of these UAMs. The staff has reviewed the LAR, the supplemental information, and the additional UAM sensitivity analyses and determined the LAR package is acceptable for detailed review and the UAM additional analyses provided adequate justification to reinstate enforcement discretion from the date the NRC received the LAR.

Sincerely,
/RA/

Michele G. Evans, Director
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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