



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

February 15, 2013

Vice President, Operations
Arkansas Nuclear One
Entergy Operations, Inc.
1448 S.R. 333
Russellville, AR 72802

SUBJECT: ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE, UNIT 2 – ACCEPTANCE REVIEW CONCERNING
REQUEST TO ADOPT NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
STANDARD NFPA-805, "PERFORMANCE-BASED STANDARD FOR FIRE
PROTECTION FOR LIGHT-WATER REACTOR ELECTRIC GENERATING
PLANTS," 2001 (TAC NO. MF0404)

Dear Sir or Madam:

By letter dated December 17, 2012 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML12353A041), Entergy Operations, Inc. (Entergy, the licensee), submitted a license amendment request for Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2, to adopt National Fire Protection Association Standard NFPA-805, "Performance-Based Standard for Fire Protection for Light-Water Reactor Electric Generating Plants," 2001. The proposed amendment requests U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) review and approval for adoption of a new fire protection licensing basis which complies with the requirements in Sections 50.48(a) and 50.48(c) of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), and the guidance in Regulatory Guide 1.205, Revision 1, "Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Fire Protection for Existing Light-Water Nuclear Power Plants," December 2009 (ADAMS Accession No. ML092730314). The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the NRC staff's acceptance review of this amendment request. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review. The acceptance review is also intended to identify whether the application has any readily apparent information insufficiencies in its characterization of the regulatory requirements or the licensing basis of the plant.

Consistent with 10 CFR 50.90, an amendment to the license (including the technical specifications) must fully describe the changes requested, and following as far as applicable, the form prescribed for original applications. Section 50.34 of 10 CFR addresses the content of technical information required. This section stipulates that the submittal address the design and operating characteristics, unusual or novel design features, and principal safety considerations.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete 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.

Given the lesser scope and depth of the acceptance review as compared to the detailed technical review, there are instances in which issues that impact the NRC staff's ability to complete the detailed technical review are identified despite completion of an adequate acceptance review. You will be advised of any further information needed to support the NRC staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence.

The NRC staff notes that Entergy continues to use methods that have not been accepted by the staff but have since been augmented by sensitivity studies. Use of these methods may complicate the NRC staff's review of your submittal. If your analytical methods are eventually determined to be unacceptable, significant revision to the application for the NFPA-805 license amendment request may be warranted.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1480 or via e-mail at kaly.kalyanam@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. Kaly Kalyanam", with a stylized flourish at the end.

N. Kaly Kalyanam, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch IV
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-368

Enclosure:

As stated

cc w/encl: Distribution via Listserv

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If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1480 or via e-mail at kaly.kalyanam@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

N. Kaly Kalyanam, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch IV
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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