



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

April 15, 2014

Mr. Kevin Mulligan
Vice President, Site
Entergy Operations, Inc.
P.O. Box 756
Port Gibson, MS 39150

SUBJECT: REGARDING THE RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION, SET 47, FOR THE REVIEW OF THE GRAND GULF NUCLEAR
STATION, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION (TAC NO. ME7493)

Dear Mr. Mulligan:

By letter dated October 28, 2011, Entergy Operations, Inc. (Entergy), submitted an application pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 54, to renew the operating license, NPF-29, for Grand Gulf Nuclear Station (GGNS), Unit 1, for review by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff. As a part of this review, the staff identified additional information that was needed and issued a request for additional information (RAI) in a letter dated August 28, 2013, "Requests for Additional Information for the Review of the Grand Gulf Nuclear Station, License Renewal Application (TAC No. ME7493) - Set 47" (ADAMS Accession No. ML13227A394).

Entergy responded by letter dated September 23, 2013 (ADAMS Accession No. ML13266A368). The response states, in part, that a supplemental response to the RAI would be provided to the NRC within 7 to 9 months from the date of that letter and will answer part 5 (in lieu of parts 1, 2, and 3) of the RAI. As the letter describes the submittal of changes to the methodology of determining fluence values for GGNS from beginning of life through the period of extended operation, the staff's understanding is that this will entail a license amendment request (LAR), and this LAR would revise the GGNS licensing basis such that reactor vessel fluence values will be determined from beginning of life through the period of extended operation in accordance with a single, NRC-approved method (or one that the NRC can determine is acceptable in accordance with Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.190).

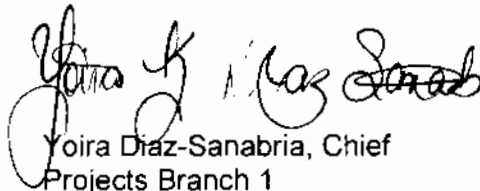
The purpose of this letter is to describe the staff's understanding as to the general steps that will be needed in regards to this issue in order to set a schedule for the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) subcommittee meeting, final safety evaluation report (SER), and ACRS Full Committee meeting for the GGNS license renewal application (LRA). The staff's understanding is as outlined here:

1. Entergy submits its RAI response along with an LAR to NRC staff for determining fluence values from beginning of life through the period of extended operation in accordance with a single, NRC-approved method (or one that the NRC can determine is acceptable in accordance with RG-1.190). In addition, Entergy provides sufficient information that describes how any remaining applicable neutron-fluence-related information in the LRA is affected by the new fluence calculation.

2. NRC staff reviews the LAR for acceptability for docketing. If found acceptable for docketing, the staff then commences its safety evaluation to determine the acceptability of the proposed license amendment. Note that staff approval of the LAR depends upon GGNS providing complete, accurate, and timely responses to NRC staff RAIs.
3. During the review of the LAR and in parallel to it, Division of License Renewal (DLR) staff and Entergy should continue to work to resolve RAI 4.2.1-2c, all other open items, outstanding RAIs, and emergent issues for the LRA, such that these issues are resolved in a timely manner.
4. NRC staff in DLR will continue to monitor the progress of both the LAR review and any other remaining issues for the LRA. When the staff has assurance that the conclusion(s) will be acceptable as far as resolving its concerns as expressed in the SER with Open Items and outstanding RAIs, it will determine when an ACRS subcommittee meeting and full committee meeting can be scheduled and conducted successfully and will develop a revised schedule for the remaining milestones of the GGNS review accordingly. The staff would then issue an updated schedule change letter.
5. Staff and Entergy would then commence implementation of the revised schedule and make preparations for the ACRS subcommittee presentation.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. John Daily at (301) 415-3873 or by e-mail at john.daily@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yoira Diaz-Sanabria".

Yoira Diaz-Sanabria, Chief
Projects Branch 1
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-416

cc w/encl: Listserv

2. NRC staff reviews the LAR for acceptability for docketing. If found acceptable for docketing, the staff then commences its safety evaluation to determine the acceptability of the proposed license amendment. Note that staff approval of the LAR depends upon GGNS providing complete, accurate, and timely responses to NRC staff RAs.
3. During the review of the LAR and in parallel to it, Division of License Renewal (DLR) staff and Entergy should continue to work to resolve RA 4.2.1-2c, all other open items, outstanding RAs, and emergent issues for the LRA, such that these issues are resolved in a timely manner.
4. NRC staff in DLR will continue to monitor the progress of both the LAR review and any other remaining issues for the LRA. When the staff has assurance that the conclusion(s) will be acceptable as far as resolving its concerns as expressed in the SER with Open Items and outstanding RAs, it will determine when an ACRS subcommittee meeting and full committee meeting can be scheduled and conducted successfully and will develop a revised schedule for the remaining milestones of the GGNS review accordingly. The staff would then issue an updated schedule change letter.
5. Staff and Entergy would then commence implementation of the revised schedule and make preparations for the ACRS subcommittee presentation.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. John Daily at (301) 415-3873 or by e-mail at john.daily@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Yaira Diaz-Sanabria, Chief
Projects Branch 1
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-416

cc w/encl: Listserv

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ADAMS Accession No.: ML14050A079

*concurring via email

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Letter to K. Mulligan from J. Lubinski dated April 15, 2014

SUBJECT: REGARDING THE RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL
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