

## **NRR-PMDAPEm Resource**

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**From:** Hall, Randy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2015 2:43 PM  
**To:** Wasik, Christopher J (Christopher.Wasik@duke-energy.com)  
**Cc:** Haile, David Carroll (David.Haile@duke-energy.com)  
**Subject:** OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1, 2 AND 3 - ACCEPTANCE FOR REVIEW OF RELIEF REQUEST 14-ON-003, CATEGORY B-J PIPING WELDS (TAC NOS. MF6299, MF6300 AND MF6301)

July 14, 2015

Mr. Christopher J. Wasik  
Manager, Regulatory Affairs  
Oconee Nuclear Station  
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC

SUBJECT: OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1, 2 AND 3 - ACCEPTANCE FOR REVIEW OF RELIEF REQUEST 14-ON-003, CATEGORY B-J PIPING WELDS (TAC NOS. MF6299, MF6300 AND MF6301)

Chris:

By letter dated May 4, 2015 (Agency-wide Documents and Access Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML15132A280), Duke Energy (the licensee) requested the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to authorize relief from Section XI of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code related to Class 1 Category B-J piping welds over the duration of the fifth (ten-year) in-service inspection (ISI) interval. This relief request applies to the Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2 and 3. The licensee is requesting to use alternative requirements from those in Code Case N-609-1 in the examination of ISI Class 1 welds.

Pursuant to Sections 50.55a(z)(1) and 50.55a(z)(2) of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), the applicant shall demonstrate that the proposed alternative would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety, or that compliance with the specified requirements of Section 50.55a would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality or safety.

In accordance with NRC's process as described in LIC-109, "Acceptance Review Procedures," the NRC staff has performed an acceptance review of the relief 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.

The NRC staff has concluded that the subject relief request does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to proceed with its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed relief request in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. If needed, the NRC staff may request additional information to complete its technical review.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-4032.

Sincerely,

Randy Hall, Senior Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch II-1  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
USNRC  
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**Received Date:** 7/14/2015 2:42:00 PM

**From:** Hall, Randy

**Created By:** Randy.Hall@nrc.gov

**Recipients:**

"Haile, David Carroll (David.Haile@duke-energy.com)" <David.Haile@duke-energy.com>

Tracking Status: None

"Wasik, Christopher J (Christopher.Wasik@duke-energy.com)" <Christopher.Wasik@duke-energy.com>

Tracking Status: None

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