

NRR-PMDAPEm Resource

From: Hall, Randy
Sent: Wednesday, September 09, 2015 10:38 AM
To: Wasik, Christopher J (Christopher.Wasik@duke-energy.com)
Cc: Haile, David Carroll (David.Haile@duke-energy.com); Whited, Jeffrey
Subject: OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1, 2 AND 3 - ACCEPTANCE FOR REVIEW OF RELIEF REQUEST 14-ON-002, RESIDUAL HEAT REMOVAL SYSTEM WELDS (TAC NOS. MF6296, MF6297 AND MF6298)

September 9, 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-002, RESIDUAL HEAT REMOVAL SYSTEM WELDS (TAC NOS. MF6296, MF6297 AND MF6298)

Chris:

By letter dated May 4, 2015 (Agency-wide Documents and Access Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML15132A278), Duke Energy (the licensee) requested the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to authorize relief from Section XI of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code related to inspection of specific Residual Heat Removal heat exchanger welds over the duration of the fifth (ten-year) in-service inspection (ISI) interval. The licensee is requesting authorization to implement the alternative provisions of ASME Code Case N-706-1 in lieu of the ASME Code, Section XI volumetric examination requirements (as specified in ASME Section XI, Category C-B, Item C.2.32) for the subject ASME Code Class 2 RHR heat exchanger tube side inlet and outlet nozzle-to-shell welds for the Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2 and 3.

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
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From: Hall, Randy

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

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"Whited, Jeffrey" <Jeffrey.Whited@nrc.gov>

Tracking Status: None

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

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