

NRR-PMDAPEm Resource

From: Wiebe, Joel
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2016 10:26 AM
To: Lisa Simpson (Lisa.Simpson@exeloncorp.com)
Subject: Acceptance Review for Braidwood/Byron MF7399-7402, "Exemption for Optimized ZIRLO" and MF7403-7406, "LAR to Implement Optimized ZIRLO Fuel Rod Cladding"

Lisa,

By letter dated February 23, 2016 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML16055A149), Exelon Generation Company, LLC (Exelon), submitted a license amendment application and exemption request for Braidwood, Units 1 and 2 and Byron Units 1 and 2. The amendment request proposes to revise Braidwood and Byron Technical Specifications (TS) 4.2.1, "Reactor Core, Fuel Assemblies," to add Optimized ZIRLO™ as an approved fuel rod cladding material. The exemption request, is intended to fulfill the first condition of the NRC Safety Evaluation for WCAP-12610-P-A & CENPD-404-P-A, Addendum 1-A (ADAMS Accession No. ML051670395) and relates solely to the specific types of cladding material specified in the regulations for use in light water reactors. The purpose of this e-mail is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of these requests. 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 reviewed your requests and concluded that they 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 requests 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 may be 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. If additional information is needed, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-6606.

Joel S. Wiebe, Sr. Project Manager

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