

NRR-PMDAPEm Resource

From: Regner, Lisa
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2016 1:20 PM
To: robert.free@dshs.state.tx.us
Cc: Burkhardt, Janet; Regner, Lisa
Subject: Notice of Draft Environmental Assessment for South Texas Project Licensing Request

Good Afternoon, Robert.

I trust you are keeping as dry as possible.

The NRC has prepared a draft environmental assessment (EA) for publication in the *Federal Register* for a 45-day public comment period. The draft EA considers the expected impacts to the environment resulting from the issuance of the STPNOC requested amendments and exemptions for resolution of Generic Safety Issue (GSI) 191. GSI-191 involves NRC concerns over possible failure of emergency coolant system pumps in the reactor containment due to debris in containment clogging the pump strainers during severe accidents. South Texas Project is the pilot-site for resolution of GSI-191 using risk-informed analysis as well as the more traditional deterministic analysis. Several other nuclear power plants are tracking STP's progress so that they can also use this methodology.

The NRC staff has made the **draft determination of no significant impact to the environment** from issuance of the amendments and granting of the exemptions request by STP.

The NRC does not expect to make a decision on the amendment and exemption requests associated with STP's resolution of GSI-191 until the end of this year; however, as you know, the environmental assessment must be completed before the actions are taken. We expect to publish the draft EA in mid-May and publish the final EA in August 2016.

Please feel free to give me a call if you have questions. If you would like to see the assessment or need more than a week to evaluate this action, please give me a call.

Thanks so much and take care!
Lisa

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