



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

December 2, 2016

Mr. David B. Hamilton  
Site Vice President  
FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company  
P.O. Box 97  
10 Center Road  
Perry, OH 44081-0097

SUBJECT: PERRY NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, UNIT 1, ACCEPTANCE FOR REVIEW OF APPLICATION CONCERNING REDUCTION OF STEAM DOME PRESSURE VALUE SPECIFIED IN TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION 2.1.1 (CAC NO. MF8760) (L-16-179)

Dear Mr. Hamilton:

By letter dated November 1, 2016, First Energy Nuclear Operating Company (FENOC) submitted an amendment request for the Perry Nuclear Power Plant (PNPP). The proposed amendment would revise technical specification (TS) 2.1.1, "Reactor Core [Safety Limits] SLs," to reduce the reactor steam dome pressure value specified in TS 2.1.1.1 and TS 2.1.1.2 from 785 pounds per square inch gauge (psig) to 686 psig. The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of the proposed license amendment 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.

Consistent with Section 50.90 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), an amendment to the license (including the technical specifications) must fully describe the changes requested, and following as far as applicable, the form prescribed for original applications. Section 50.34 of 10 CFR addresses the content of technical information required. This section stipulates that the submittal address the design and operating characteristics, unusual or novel design features, and principal safety considerations.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does 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 proposed amendment 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.

D. Hamilton

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Based on the information provided in your submittal, the NRC staff has estimated that this licensing request will take approximately 170 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review by the requested date of October 31, 2017. If there are emergent complexities or challenges in our review that would cause changes to the initial forecasted completion date or significant changes in the forecasted hours, the reasons for the changes, along with the new estimates will be communicated, during the routine interactions with the assigned project manager.

These estimates are based on the staff's initial review of the application and they could change, due to several factors including requests for additional information, unanticipated addition of scope to the review, and review by NRC advisory committees or hearing-related activities. Additional delay may occur if the submittal is provided to the NRC in advance or in parallel with industry program initiatives or pilot applications.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1627.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kimberly Green", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kimberly Green, Senior Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch III-1  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-440

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D. Hamilton

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Based on the information provided in your submittal, the NRC staff has estimated that this licensing request will take approximately 170 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review by the requested date of October 31, 2017. If there are emergent complexities or challenges in our review that would cause changes to the initial forecasted completion date or significant changes in the forecasted hours, the reasons for the changes, along with the new estimates will be communicated, during the routine interactions with the assigned project manager.

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If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1627.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Kimberly Green, Senior Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch III-1  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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