

From: Wentzel, Michael
Sent: Thursday, April 2, 2020 6:36 AM
To: Orf, Tracy J
Cc: Shoop, Undine
Subject: Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Units 1, 2, and 3 - Acceptance of Request for Alternative 0-ISI-47 (L-2020-LLR-0034)

Dear Mr. Orf,

By letter dated February 28, 2020 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML20059N637), the Tennessee Valley Authority (the licensee) submitted a relief request for Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant, Units 1, 2, and 3. The purpose of this email is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this 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.

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 alternatives 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.

The NRC staff concluded that the licensee's submittal provides technical information in sufficient detail to enable the staff to complete its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed request 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 the NRC staff identifies issues that affect its ability to complete the detailed technical review despite completion of an adequate acceptance review. If the NRC staff needs additional information, it will notify the licensee by separate correspondence.

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 relief request 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. You will be advised of any further information needed to support the NRC staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence.

The staff has estimated that it will take approximately 125 hours to complete this relief request and that it will complete its review by September 2020. 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 NRC staff's initial review of the application and

they could change, due to several factors including requests for additional information, and unanticipated addition of scope to the review.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-6459 or michael.wentzel@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

Michael Wentzel, Project Manager
Michael J. Wentzel, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-2
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-259, 50-260, and 50-296

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"Shoop, Undine" <Undine.Shoop@nrc.gov>
Tracking Status: None
"Orf, Tracy J" <tjorf@tva.gov>
Tracking Status: None

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