

From: Lingam, Siva
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2022 8:31 AM
To: Matthew.Cox@aps.com
Cc: Dixon-Herrity, Jennifer; Cusumano, Victor; Grover, Ravi
Subject: Palo Verde 1, 2, and 3 - Acceptance Review of LAR to Adopt TSTF-487-A, Revision 1, "Relocate DNB Parameters to the COLR" (EPID L-2022-LLA-0061)

By letter dated April 26, 2022 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML22116A220), Arizona Public Service Company submitted a license amendment request (LAR) to revise Technical Specifications (TSs) to adopt Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF) Traveler TSTF-487-A, Revision 1, "Relocate DNB [Departure from Nucleate Boiling] Parameters to the COLR [Core Operating Limits Report]" for Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3. The availability of this TS improvement was announced in the *Federal Register* (FR) on June 5, 2007 (72 FR 31108) as part of the consolidated line item improvement process. The proposed LAR revises the following:

- TS 3.1.11, "Special Test Exceptions (STE) – Reactivity Coefficient Testing," Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) 3.1.11 is revised to delete reference to LCO 3.4.1.b.
- TS 3.4.1, "RCS Pressure, Temperature, and Flow Departure from Nucleate Boiling (DNB) Limits," LCO 3.4.1, is revised to remove the specific limits specified in the LCO and to state that the limits are specified in the COLR.
- The Surveillance Requirements in TS 3.4.1 are revised to remove the specific limits and to state that the limits are specified in the COLR.
- Figure 3.4.1-1, "Reactor Coolant Cold Leg Temperature vs. [versus] Core Power Level" is deleted.
- TS 5.6.5, "Core Operating Limits Report (COLR)," paragraph "a," is modified to add the methodology requirements for calculating the DNB numeric limits in the COLR.
- TS 5.6.5, paragraph "c," is modified to clarify that the COLR limits must be determined assuming that the plant is capable of operating at the rated thermal power specified in Section 1.1, "Definitions."

The purpose of this e-mail is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review for the LAR. 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 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 LAR 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.

Based on the information provided in your submittal, the NRC staff has estimated that this licensing request will take approximately 155 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to

complete this review by January 26, 2023, or earlier. 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, or unanticipated addition of scope to the review.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1564.

Siva P. Lingam
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