

From: Shea, Jim
Sent: Monday, August 1, 2022 3:26 PM
To: Diaz-Quiroz, Jesus G. (GE Power Portfolio); GEH-BWRX-300DocsPEm Resource
Cc: Wadkins, George (GE Power); Patton, Rebecca; Wittick, Brian; Lu, Shanlai; Stubbs, Angelo; Nolan, Ryan; Pohida, Marie; Bailey, Stewart; Franovich, Mike; Pohida, Marie; Dudek, Michael; Glisan, Jordan; Vasavada, Shilp; Grady, Anne-Marie
Subject: Pre-Application Page Turn engagement plan for Draft GEH BWRX-300 LTR NEDC-33934P, "Safety Strategy" 08/03/2022

Jesús,

During the staff's pre-application discussions with GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas, LLC (GEH) on their proposed Licensing Topical Report (LTR) NEDC-33934P, "Safety Strategy," for its small modular reactor design BWRX-300, GEH requested that the NRC staff conduct a non-public pre-application readiness assessment ("Page Turn") of the draft subject LTR prior to its planned submittal in late August 2022.

The proposed "Page Turn," **scheduled for August 3, 2022, between 9.00 am-5:00pm,** is an approved method of engagement under the NRC's official pre-application readiness assessment which is not part of the NRC's official LTR acceptance review process. This "Page Turn" engagement will help the NRC staff and GEH to determine the readiness of the draft GEH LTR and will allow an understanding of the level of detail in its proposed Safety Strategy LTR application and identify any major issues or information gaps between the draft application and the technical content required to be included in the application submitted to the NRC. Therefore, the observations from the "Page Turn" engagement do not predetermine whether the application will be docketed.

The "Page Turn" engagement plan below provides the details and logistics of the readiness assessment activities. **No regulatory decisions will be made during or following this "Page Turn," staff engagement with GEH.**

PRE-APPLICATION READINESS ASSESSMENT PLAN OF GE-HITACHI LICENSING TOPICAL REPORT NEDC-33934P, "BWRX-300 SAFETY STRATEGY"

Docket No. 99900003

LOCATION

North Bethesda Marriot near NRC HQ, August 3, 2022

PURPOSE

On August 3, 2022, at the North Bethesda Marriot GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas, LLC (GEH) has requested to engage with the staff of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in a non-public pre-application engagement “Page Turn” activity for the draft GEH licensing topical report (LTR) NEDC-33934P, “Safety Strategy,” for the BWRX-300 small modular reactor (SMR) before the application is submitted for a formal NRC review.

The “Page Turn” engagement will allow the NRC staff to:

- identify information gaps between the draft application and the technical content required in the application submitted to the NRC,
- identify major technical or policy issues that may adversely impact the docketing or technical review of the application, and
- become familiar with the application, particularly in areas where GEH is proposing new concepts or novel design features.

The observations from the “Page Turn,” will inform GEH in finalizing the application and assist the NRC staff in planning resources in preparation for the formal application.

BACKGROUND

The NRC staff is currently engaged in pre-application activities for the GEH BWRX-300 SMR, including the review of LTRs describing the design approaches and methodologies for the BWRX-300 SMR in advance of a license application in accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 50, “Domestic Licensing Of Production And Utilization Facilities,” or Part 52, “Licenses, Certifications, and Approvals For Nuclear Power Plants.” The BWRX-300 is a 300 MWe water-cooled, natural circulation SMR with passive safety systems.

The design of the BWRX-300 is in part based on passive design concepts approved by the NRC in the design certified (DC), 1,520 MWe Economic Simplified BWR (ESBWR), Appendix E of 10 CFR Part 52, “Design Certification Rule for the ESBWR Design.”

The NRC will conduct the “Page Turn” engagement for the draft BWRX-300, “Safety Strategy,” LTR on August 3, 2022, at the North Bethesda Marriot directly across from the NRC headquarters building in Rockville Maryland.

SCOPE OF THE PREAPPLICATION ENGAGEMENT

The “Page Turn” will cover only the draft GEH BWRX-300, “Safety Strategy,” LTR.

INFORMATION AND OTHER MATERIAL NECESSARY FOR THE PREAPPLICATION ENGAGEMENT

The staff has discussed with GEH the logistics for the “Page Turn” engagement, including the specific staff participation. GEH will provide the staff with the draft LTR at the location discussed above. In addition, the staff will conduct the “Page Turn” in accordance with guidance from the NRC-NRR Office Instruction LIC-116, Revision 0, “Preapplication Readiness Assessment,” (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. [ML20104B698](#)) and

as outlined in the staff draft pre-application engagement White Paper ([ML21145A106](#)) specifically, the staff will review the LTR for aspects of the proposed submittal that may be inconsistent with applicable review guidance and regulations (other than where the application indicates it is proposing an alternative to an approach contemplated by review guidance.

PRE-APPLICATION ENGAGEMENT TEAM

The NRC staff “Page Turn” engagement team will include the Division of New and Renewed Licenses (DNRL) project staff as well as Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) technical staff that will be the principal reviewers for the LTR.

LOGISTICS

The “Page Turn” engagement will be conducted on August 3, 2022, at the North Bethesda Marriot. It is scheduled to begin in the morning at approximately 9:00am and will close by 5:00pm or earlier as is needed for the staff to complete its “Page Turn,” engagement. The meeting will include an entrance discussion led by NRC DNRL project staff and will end with an exit meeting at the conclusion of the staff’s engagement.

PRE-APPLICATION ENGAGEMENT OBSERVATIONS

The staff will complete its engagement activities and will provide feedback to GEH in an email on or before August 26, 2022, to meet the planned GEH LTR submittal planned schedule. GEH will be briefed on the observations of the staff assessment upon completion of the meeting within the following two weeks or less. The NRC staff will send the “Page Turn” engagement’s observations, including any identified technical concerns or major information gaps, to GEH in a publicly available assessment that will also summarize the scope of the preapplication engagement. NRC Office Instructions LIC-116 delineates the timeline for the final report, however, the Preapplication Engagement Team will endeavor to complete the final report as quickly as possible before August 26, 2022, by using the streamlined process described above as well as the, pre-application engagement White Paper “right-sized scope for the readiness assessment.” The staff’s expectation is that GEH will consider the observations from the “Page Turn” engagement activities while finalizing the application and may reevaluate the application submission date based on its evaluation of the time to address the staff’s observations.

All written correspondence between NRC staff for this “Page Turn” engagement will be entered in ADAMS and will be controlled appropriately.

If you have any questions regarding the above “Page Turn,” plan, please let me know.

James Shea
NRR/DNRL/NRLB
BWRX-300 PM

Hearing Identifier: GEH_BWRX300_Docs_Public
Email Number: 17

Mail Envelope Properties (BLAPR09MB68995CCA58689C81F86D0D22949A9)

Subject: Pre-Application Page Turn engagement plan for Draft GEH BWRX-300 LTR
NEDC-33934P, "Safety Strategy" 08/03/2022
Sent Date: 8/1/2022 3:25:39 PM
Received Date: 8/1/2022 3:25:43 PM
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Files	Size	Date & Time
MESSAGE	7462	8/1/2022 3:25:43 PM

Options
Priority: Normal

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