

October 28, 2008

The Honorable Ike Skelton
Member, United States House of
Representatives
1401 Southwest Blvd., Suite 101
Jefferson City, MO 65109-2484

Dear Congressman Skelton:

On behalf of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your October 3, 2008, request regarding the status of AmerenUE's combined license application (COLA) for a new nuclear power plant in Callaway County, Missouri. In your letter you asked that the NRC consider and comply, if possible, with the request made by the Jefferson City Area Board of REALTORS, Inc. (Board) in its August 14, 2008, letter which urged the NRC to approve AmerenUE's COLA.

The NRC has received 17 applications for combined licenses (COL) and 26 large capacity light water reactors. These applications reference five reactor designs, of which one has been certified by the NRC, three are being reviewed for potential certification, and one for which an amendment has been requested.

On July 28, 2008, AmerenUE submitted a COLA for a U.S. Evolutionary Power Reactor (EPR) to be located at the Callaway site. In a letter dated October 16, 2008, the NRC summarized the current acceptance review issues and informed AmerenUE that upon receipt of AmerenUE's revision to the application and the NRC staff's completion of its acceptance review, the NRC staff would make a decision to accept or reject the Callaway Unit 2 COLA for technical review.

Once an application is accepted by the NRC for a detailed technical review, the NRC staff reviews the applicant's qualifications, design safety, environmental impacts, operational programs, site safety, and verification of construction. All stakeholders (including the public) are given notice as to how and when they may participate in the regulatory process, which may include participating in public meetings and an opportunity to petition to intervene in the hearing on the issuance of a COL. After the review and associated hearing are completed, the Commission will decide whether to issue a COL to AmerenUE for an EPR at the Callaway site.

The EPR design is currently not a certified design. It is under review by the staff. The EPR design must be certified before a COL application that references the design can be approved. If the NRC accepts the AmerenUE application for review, the NRC will post a project review schedule on its public web site and the NRC staff will review the application in parallel with the EPR design.

STAFF
Exhibit No. 236
Case No(s) ER-2008-0318
Date 12-1-08 Rptr/F

I. Skelton

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I trust that the information provided above will inform your constituent about the process that will be used for reviewing the Callaway application.

Sincerely,

/RA Bruce Mallett for/

R. W. Borchardt
Executive Director
for Operations

I. Skelton

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Sincerely,

/RA Bruce Mallett for/

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Executive Director
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