

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 52-018 and 52-019]

Duke Energy; Acceptance for Docketing of an Application for a Combined License for William States Lee III Units 1 and 2

By letter dated December 12, 2007, as supplemented by a letter dated January 28, 2008, two letters dated February 6, 2008, and a letter dated February 8, 2008, Duke Energy submitted its application to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for a combined license (COL) for two AP1000 advanced passive pressurized water reactors in accordance with the requirements contained in 10 CFR 52, "Licenses, Certifications and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants." These reactors will be identified as William States Lee III Units 1 and 2 and are to be located in Cherokee County, South Carolina. A notice of receipt and availability of this application was previously published in the **Federal Register** (73 FR 6218) on February 1, 2008.

The NRC staff has determined that Duke Energy has submitted information in accordance with 10 CFR part 2, "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings and Issuance of Orders," and 10 CFR part 52 that is acceptable for docketing. The Docket Numbers established for Units 1 and 2 are 52-018, and 52-019, respectively.

The NRC staff will perform a detailed technical review of the application. Docketing of the application does not preclude the NRC from requesting additional information from the applicant as the review proceeds, nor does it predict whether the Commission will grant or deny the application. The Commission will conduct a hearing in accordance with Subpart L, "Informal Hearing Procedures for NRC Adjudications," of 10 CFR part 2 and will receive a report on the COL application from the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards in accordance with 10 CFR 52.87, "Referral to the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS)." If the Commission finds that the COL application meets the applicable standards of the Atomic Energy Act and the Commission's regulations, and that required notifications to other agencies and bodies have been made, the Commission will issue a COL, in the form and containing conditions and limitations that the Commission finds appropriate and necessary.

In accordance with 10 CFR part 51, the Commission will also prepare an

environmental impact statement for the proposed action. Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.26, and as part of the environmental scoping process, the staff intends to hold a public scoping meeting. Detailed information regarding this meeting will be included in a future **Federal Register** notice.

Finally, the Commission will announce in a future **Federal Register** notice the opportunity to petition for leave to intervene in the hearing required for this application by 10 CFR 52.85.

Documents may be examined, and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, Public File Area O1 F21, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland 20852, and will be accessible electronically through the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Public Electronic Reading Room link at the NRC Web site <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. The application is also available at <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/col.html>. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who encounter problems in accessing documents located in ADAMS should contact the NRC PDR Reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 25th day of February 2008.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

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Senior Project Manager, AP1000 Projects Branch 1, Division of New Reactor Licensing, Office of New Reactors.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 52-020]

AREVA NP, Inc.; Acceptance for Docketing of an Application for Standard Design Certification of the U.S. EPR

By letter dated December 11, 2007, as supplemented by letters dated February 7, 2008 and February 20, 2008, AREVA NP Inc. (AREVA) submitted an application to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC, the Commission) for a standard design certification of the U.S. Evolutionary Power Reactor (EPR). The application was submitted pursuant to section 103 of the Atomic Energy Act and Subpart B, "Standard Design Certifications," of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) Part 52,

"Licenses, Certifications, and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants." A notice of receipt and availability of this application was previously published in the **Federal Register** (73 FR 2286) on January 14, 2008.

The NRC staff has determined that AREVA has submitted information in accordance with 10 CFR Part 2, "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings and Issuance of Orders," and 10 CFR Part 52 and that the application is acceptable for docketing. The docket number established for this application is 52-020.

The NRC staff will perform a detailed technical review of the design certification application. Docketing of the design certification application does not preclude the NRC from requesting additional information from the applicant as the review proceeds, nor does it predict whether the Commission will grant or deny the application. The NRC staff anticipates that a notice relating to the rulemaking pursuant to 10 CFR 52.51 for design certification, including provisions for participation of the public and other parties, will be published in the future.

The U.S. EPR design is an approximately 1600 megawatt electric evolutionary pressurized water reactor (PWR). The primary system design, loop configuration, and main components design are similar to those of currently operating PWRs. The U.S. EPR contains unique design features, such as four redundant trains of emergency core cooling; Containment and Shield Building; and a core melt retention system for severe accident mitigation. The U.S. EPR application includes the entire power generation complex, except those elements and features considered site-specific.

Documents may be examined, and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, Public File Area O1 F21, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland 20852, and will be accessible electronically through the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Public Electronic Reading Room link at the NRC Web site <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who encounter problems in accessing documents located in ADAMS should contact the NRC PDR Reference staff by telephone at 1-800-4209, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov. The application is also available at <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/design-cert.html>.