

August 14, 2000

Mr. James Scarola, Vice President
Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant
Carolina Power & Light Company
Post Office Box 165, Mail Code: Zone 1
New Hill, North Carolina 27562-0165

SUBJECT: COMPLETION OF LICENSING ACTION FOR GENERIC LETTER 98-02, "LOSS OF REACTOR COOLANT INVENTORY AND ASSOCIATED POTENTIAL FOR LOSS OF EMERGENCY MITIGATION FUNCTION WHILE IN A SHUTDOWN CONDITION" - SHEARON HARRIS NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, UNIT 1 (TAC NO. MA4788)

Dear Mr. Scarola:

On May 28, 1998, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Generic Letter (GL) 98-02 to all holders of operating licenses for Pressurized Water Reactors (PWR), except those who have permanently ceased operations, and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel. The NRC issued GL 98-02 to request that PWR licensees evaluate a September 17, 1994, event, which occurred at Wolf Creek, which had the potential to draindown the reactor coolant system (RCS) to the refueling water storage tank (RWST) and, at the same time, render the emergency core cooling system (ECCS) and residual heat removal (RHR) system inoperable by introducing a steam/water mixture to the suction side of the ECCS and RHR pumps. Addressees of GL 98-02 were requested to provide the following information within 180 days: (1) an assessment of whether the addressee's facility is vulnerable to the September 17, 1994, Wolf Creek event; and (2) if the facility is found to be vulnerable, an assessment of the plant-specific 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B, quality assurance program attributes that will prevent the subject event. If the addressee's facility was determined to be vulnerable, a response to information item (1) was to be provided pursuant to 10 CFR 50.54(f) and 10 CFR 50.4, and the responses to information items (1) and (2) were to be kept in a licensee's retrievable system for use by the NRC staff on an as-needed basis.

In response to GL 98-02, you provided a letter dated November 23, 1998, for the Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 1 (HNP). The submittal indicated that HNP was vulnerable to the type of incident which occurred at Wolf Creek and further indicated that the plant evaluation concerning the subject vulnerability (information item (2) of GL 98-02) was being kept in a retrievable licensee system that the NRC can verify on an as-needed or sample basis, in accordance with GL 98-02.

By letter dated July 27, 2000, the Region II NRC staff issued NRC Inspection Report No. 50-400/00-02. The subject inspection report contained details of the NRC staff's on-site verification of activities that you undertook in response to GL 98-02 for HNP. Specifically, the inspectors reviewed your procedures and records to confirm that you: (1) had searched for potential draindown paths that could be created by operator error or equipment failures, and which could lead to a common-cause failure of residual heat removal and emergency core cooling system pumps; and (2) had taken adequate measures to reduce the likelihood of such a draindown.

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The NRC staff has reviewed your response to GL 98-02 and has concluded that (1) all the information requested by GL 98-02 has been provided, and (2) that your on-site activities adequately addressed the concerns of GL 98-02 for HNP; therefore, we consider GL 98-02 to be closed for HNP.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard J. Laufer, Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-400

cc: See next page

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The NRC staff has reviewed your response to GL 98-02 and has concluded that (1) all the information requested by GL 98-02 has been provided, and (2) that your on-site activities adequately addressed the concerns of GL 98-02 for HNP; therefore, we consider GL 98-02 to be closed for HNP.

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Richard J. Laufer, Project Manager, Section 2
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Carolina Power & Light Company

Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant
Unit 1

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