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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Subject: Arkansas Nuclear One
Docket Nos. 50-313 and 50-368
License Nos. DPR-51 and NPF-6
Response to Inspection Report 00-16

Gentlemen:

The subject inspection report identified an apparent "White" violation of Arkansas Nuclear One (ANO), Unit 2 (ANO-2) License Condition 2.C.(3)(b), *Fire Protection*. The apparent violation (APV 50-368/0016-01) addresses the discovery of unlatched double leaf fire door 269 that separates the ANO-2 north and south vital switchgear rooms from June 22-26, 2000.

The ANO-2 Safety Analysis Report (SAR), Section 9D.5, *Fire Barriers*, requires that all fire barriers separating safety-related fire areas or separating portions of redundant safe shutdown systems required in the event of a fire shall be operable. However, should a fire barrier become inoperable, it is acceptable to establish compensatory measures in the form of an hourly roving fire watch on the condition that fire detectors, with control room alarms, are operable on one side of the degraded barrier. During recent analysis of the apparent violation, ANO discovered that qualified roving fire watches traversed the ANO-2 north and south vital switchgear rooms on an hourly basis during the time that fire door 269 was unlatched. Additionally, during the period that fire door 269 was unlatched, fire detectors with control room alarms were operable on each side of the affected fire door.

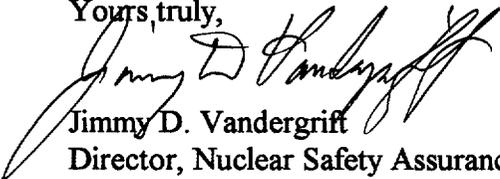
Based on this new information, it is now concluded that ANO-2 was in compliance with the fire barrier licensing basis as stated in SAR Section 9D.5 during the period that fire door 269 was unlatched. Since ANO-2 was in compliance with SAR Section 9D.5, we request that consideration be given to reclassifying the unlatched fire door 269 as a minor violation of ANO procedures.

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Even though ANO-2 was in compliance with SAR Section 9D.5 while fire door 269 was unlatched, corrective actions to ensure that the proper configuration of fire door 269 and other regulatory required double leaf fire doors are maintained as required are being addressed in the ANO corrective action program.

Should you have questions or comments please call me at 501-858-4601.

Yours, truly,



Jimmy D. Vandergriff
Director, Nuclear Safety Assurance

JDV/RMC

cc:

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