

January 8, 2001
RC-01-0009



Document Control Desk
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Attention: Ms. K. R. Cotton

Gentlemen:

Stephen A. Byrne
Vice President
Nuclear Operations
803.345.4622

Subject: VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION (VCSNS)
DOCKET NO. 50/395
OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-12
WITHDRAWAL OF REQUEST FOR RELIEF
TO USE THE QUALIFICATION METHODS OF ASME CODE
SECTION XI APPENDIX III IN LIEU OF SECTION XI
APPENDIX VIII FOR ULTRASONIC EXAMINATION OF CLASS
I PIPING REPAIR
NRR 00-0253

Reference: 1. Stephen A. Byrne (SCE&G) letter RC-00-0346 to Document
Control Desk (NRC), dated November 6, 2000

In Reference 1 above, South Carolina Electric & Gas Company (SCE&G), submitted a request for relief to provide an alternative to the requirements of the ASME Code regarding specific non-destructive examinations to be performed at the Virgil C. Summer Nuclear station (VCSNS) on the Reactor Coolant System (RCS).

This relief specifically requested the use of Section XI, Appendix III in lieu of Appendix VIII to allow the performance of Ultrasonic examination (UT) on the inside diameter of the new welds. The examination is part of the post replacement pre-service examination of welds in the "A" loop hot leg at VCSNS.

This request was proposed to permit the development of a base line of the welds for future Section XI Inservice Inspections. Recent changes in 10 CFR 50.55a requirements require this inspection to be performed in accordance with Section XI, Appendix VIII. To date, there is no qualified inspection procedure, personnel or equipment for an inside diameter examination on a stainless steel to stainless steel weld.

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A047

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Due to unforeseen constraints on resources, this examination will be performed from the outside diameter where Appendix VIII requirements can be satisfied. As such, this relief request is being withdrawn.

Should you have questions, please call Mr. Philip A. Rose at (803) 345-4052.

Very truly yours,



Stephen A. Byrne

PAR/SAB/dr

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NSRC
RTS (NRR 00-0253)
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