



James Scarola
Vice President
Harris Nuclear Plant

APR 2 2001

SERIAL: HNP-01-057

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTENTION: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

SHEARON HARRIS NUCLEAR POWER PLANT
DOCKET NO. 50-400/LICENSE NO. NPF-63
NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DELAY 10 CFR 50.59 RULE CHANGE IMPLEMENTATION

Dear Sir or Madam:

The effective date for the revised 10 CFR 50.59, was established in a December 13, 2000, *Federal Register* notice (65 FR 77773), as March 13, 2001. As discussed in Regulatory Issue Summary (RIS) 2001-03, dated January 23, 2001, the NRC has stated that to permit an orderly transition to the revised rule, licensees may implement the rule later than this date. Although an exemption is not necessary, the RIS suggested that a licensee may want to communicate its implementation plan to the NRC. In accordance with this guidance, it is the intention of the Harris Plant to implement the revised requirements of 10 CFR 50.59 on January 17, 2002. The Harris Plant plans to delay implementation until January 2002 to accommodate an extensive fall refueling outage. This is necessary in order to accommodate the significant number of plant changes associated with the replacement of all three steam generators and the power up-rate being performed during this outage. The Harris Plant will phase in the implementation of the new rule by beginning new screens and evaluations on and after the Harris Plant implementation date using the new rule. Until that time, we will continue to implement our existing 10 CFR 50.59 review processes.

The activities associated with the replacement of steam generators alone would involve a significant amount of rework due to the revised 10 CFR 50.59 rule and the timeline for engineering package development that includes 10 CFR 50.59 evaluations. The rework associated with this change would not contribute to increased safety. January 17, 2002 was selected based on the scheduled end date for the refueling outage of December 7, 2001 and the time required to transition back to normal business mode. Included in the Harris Plant's plan for implementation are training sessions and procedure changes associated with the new rule. Based

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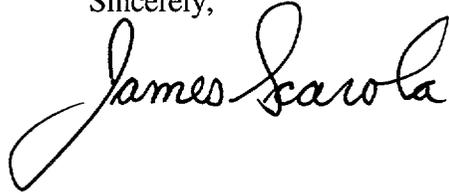
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on the need for an orderly transition and the estimated time to conduct the necessary tasks for transition, the best target date for implementation was determined to be January 17, 2002.

Questions regarding this matter may be referred to Mr. E. McCartney at (919) 362-2661.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Scarola". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

RTG

c: Mr. J. B. Brady (NRC Senior Resident Inspector, HNP)
Mr. Rich Laufer (NRR Project Manager, HNP)
Mr. L. A. Reyes (NRC Regional Administrator, Region II)
Ms. E. M. McKenna (NRR/RGEB)

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