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Senior Vice President, Nuclear Operations

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May 30, 2001

RC-01-0110

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

Gentlemen:

Subject: VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION  
DOCKET NO. 50/395  
OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-12  
IMPLEMENTATION OF REVISED 10 CFR 50.59  
REVISION OF IMPLEMENTATION DATE

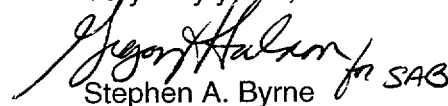
Reference: Stephen A. Byrne Letter to Document Control Desk dated March 8, 2001  
RC-01-0054

The effective date for the revised 10 CFR 50.59 rule 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 the referenced letter, Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station (VCSNS) established June 1, 2001 as the implementation date for the revised rule.

Training and program changes necessary to support implementation of the revised rule will be complete as scheduled; however, VCSNS has found that it is prudent to conduct a planned maintenance outage that coincides with the original implementation date. The outage date has been established based on system demands and equipment maintenance requirements. It has been the practice of VCSNS to not implement significant program changes during periods of high activity in order to reduce the possibility of human errors. South Carolina Electric & Gas Company (SCE&G) will postpone planned implementation of the revised requirements of 10 CFR 50.59 until July 1, 2001. This will provide for an orderly transition to the revised rule. Until that time, we will continue to implement our existing 10 CFR 50.59 review processes.

Should you have any questions, please call Mr. Arnie J. Cribb at (803-345-4346) at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

  
Stephen A. Byrne for SAB

MNB/SAB/dr

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