

June 4, 2001

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: REVIEW OF PRELIMINARY ACCIDENT SEQUENCE PRECURSOR ANALYSIS
OF JUNE 2000 OPERATIONAL CONDITION - SHEARON HARRIS NUCLEAR
POWER PLANT (SHNPP)

Dear Mr. Scarola:

Enclosed for your review and comment is a copy of the preliminary Accident Sequence Precursor (ASP) Program analysis of an operational condition (Enclosure 1), which was discovered at SHNPP on September 21, 2000. The condition was reported by SHNPP, Carolina Power & Light Company, in Licensee Event Report (LER) No. 400/00-007-00. The results of our preliminary analysis indicate that the condition may be a precursor (difference in core damage probability $\geq 1 \times 10^{-6}$) in the ASP Program.

In assessing operational conditions, the NRC staff strives to make the ASP models as realistic as possible regarding the specific features and response of a given plant to various accident sequence initiators. We realize that licensees may have additional systems and emergency procedures or other features at their plants that might affect the analysis. Therefore, we are providing you an opportunity to review and comment on the technical adequacy of the preliminary ASP analysis, including the depiction of plant equipment and equipment capabilities. Upon receipt and evaluation of your comments, we will revise the conditional core damage probability calculations where necessary to consider the specific information you have provided. The object of our review process is to provide as realistic an analysis of the significance of the condition as possible.

In order for us to incorporate your comments, perform any required re-analysis, and prepare the final report of our analysis in a timely manner, you are requested to complete your review and to provide any comments, if you choose to, within 60 calendar days from the date of this letter. We have streamlined the ASP Program with the objective of significantly improving the time after an event in which the final precursor analysis of the condition is made publicly available. As soon as our final analysis of this condition has been completed, we will provide for your information the final precursor analysis and the resolution of your comments.

We have also enclosed information to facilitate your review (Enclosure 2). Enclosure 2 contains specific guidance for performing the requested review, identifies the criteria which we will apply to determine whether any credit should be given in the analysis for the use of licensee-identified additional equipment or specific actions in recovering from the event, and describes the specific information that you should provide to support such a claim.

Your response to this transmittal is purely voluntary. Please contact Richard Laufer on (301) 415-1373 if you have any questions regarding this request.

This request is covered by the existing OMB clearance number 3150-0104 for NRC staff follow-up review of events documented in LERs. Your response to this request is voluntary and does not constitute a licensing requirement.

Sincerely,

/RA by R.Subbaratnam Acting for/

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

Docket No. 50-400

Enclosures:

1. Preliminary ASP Analysis for 2000 Event
2. ASP Review Guidance

cc w/encls: See next page

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