



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET SW SUITE 23T85
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931**

August 31, 2001

Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
ATTN: Mr. D. N. Morey
Vice President
P. O. Box 1295
Birmingham, AL 35201

SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT FOLLOW-UP - JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR PLANT

Dear Mr. Morey:

On August 17, 2001, the NRC staff forwarded a letter concerning the final significance determination of a White inspection finding in the Physical Protection cornerstone at your Farley Nuclear Plant. This finding involved the failure of your protective strategy to prevent mock adversaries from gaining access to certain target sets during force-on-force exercises conducted in July 2000 as part of the NRC's Operational Safeguards Response Evaluation (OSRE).

Therefore, we plan to conduct supplemental Inspection Procedure 95001 during November 2001 to better understand the causes contributing to this finding. This inspection procedure is conducted to provide assurance that the root causes and contributing causes of risk significant performance issues are understood, the extent of condition is identified, and the identified corrective actions are sufficient to prevent recurrence. The scope of this supplemental inspection will depend on the outcome of the OSRE scheduled for the week of September 17, 2001.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be publicly available in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If you have any questions, please call Mr. Stephen J. Cahill at (404) 562-4520.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Victor M. McCree, Acting Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-348, 50-364
License Nos. NPF-2, NPF-8

cc: (See page 2)

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