

Mr. D. N. Morey  
 Vice President - Farley Project  
 Southern Nuclear Operating  
 Company, Inc.  
 Post Office Box 1295  
 Birmingham, Alabama 35201-1295

February 5, 1998

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENTS - JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR PLANT,  
 UNITS 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS. M99034 AND M99035)

Dear Mr. Morey:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 134 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-2 and Amendment No. 126 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-8 for the Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2. The amendments change the Technical Specifications (TS) in response to your submittal dated June 13, 1997, as supplemented by letter dated January 7, 1998.

The amendments change TS 3.9.13 by adding a footnote to clarify the required electrical power sources for the penetration room filtration system when it is aligned to the spent fuel pool room during refueling operations. In addition, the associated Bases section of the TS will be modified to provide additional details concerning the proposed TS change.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. A Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's biweekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,  
 ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:  
 Jacob I. Zimmerman, Project Manager  
 Project Directorate II-2  
 Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-348 and 50-364

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 134 to NPF-2
2. Amendment No. 126 to NPF-8
3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

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OFFICE	PDII-2/PM	PDII-2/LA	OGC	PDII-2/D
NAME	J.ZIMMERMAN:cn	L.BERRY	APT	H.BERKOW
DATE	11 21 198	1 130 198	1 123 198	2 15 198
COPY	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY  
 SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY, INC.

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 P PDR





UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 5, 1998

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Vice President - Farley Project  
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The amendments change TS 3.9.13 by adding a footnote to clarify the required electrical power sources for the penetration room filtration system when it is aligned to the spent fuel pool room during refueling operations. In addition, the associated Bases section of the TS will be modified to provide additional details concerning the proposed TS change.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. A Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's biweekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jacob I. Zimmerman".

Jacob I. Zimmerman, Project Manager  
Project Directorate II-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-348 and 50-364

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 134 to NPF-2
2. Amendment No. 126 to NPF-8
3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant

cc:

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY, INC.

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-348

JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 1

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 134  
License No. NPF-2

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
  - A. The application for amendment by Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. (Southern Nuclear), dated June 13, 1997, as supplemented by letter dated January 7, 1998, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
  - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
  - D. The issuance of this license amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
  - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications, as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment; and paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-2 is hereby amended to read as follows:

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(2) Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendices A and B, as revised through Amendment No. 134, are hereby incorporated in the license. Southern Nuclear shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



J. M. Olsen  
for

Herbert N. Berkow, Director  
Project Directorate II-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:  
Changes to the Technical  
Specifications

Date of Issuance: February 5, 1998

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 134

TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-2

DOCKET NO. 50-348

Replace the following pages of the Appendix A Technical Specifications with the enclosed pages. The revised areas are indicated by marginal lines.

Remove

3/4 9-15

B 3/4 9-3

Insert

3/4 9-15

B 3/4 9-3

## REFUELING OPERATIONS

### 3/4.9.13 STORAGE POOL VENTILATION (FUEL MOVEMENT)

#### LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

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3.9.13 Two independent penetration room filtration systems (Specification 3.7.8) shall be OPERABLE \* and aligned to the spent fuel pool room:

**APPLICABILITY:** During crane operation with loads, over the fuel in the spent fuel pit and during fuel movement within the spent fuel pit.

**ACTION:**

- a. With one penetration room filtration system inoperable return both systems to OPERABLE status within 48 hours or suspend all movement of fuel and crane operation with loads over the spent fuel in the storage pool room.
- b. The provisions of Specification 3.0.3 and 3.0.4 are not applicable.

#### SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

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4.9.13.1 Two penetration room filtration systems shall be verified to be aligned to the spent fuel pool room within 12 hours prior to fuel handling or crane operations in the storage pool room and at least once per 24 hours thereafter until fuel movement operations in the storage pool room are suspended.

4.9.13.2 The penetration room filtration system shall be demonstrated OPERABLE per the requirements of Specification 4.7.8.

4.9.13.3 At least once per 18 months verify that the normal spent fuel pool system ventilation system will isolate upon receipt of either;

- a. The spent fuel pool ventilation low differential pressure test signal, or
- b. A spent fuel pool high radiation test signal.

\* The normal or emergency power source may be inoperable in MODE 5 or 6 provided that the requirements of TS 3.8.1.2 are satisfied.

## REFUELING OPERATIONS

### BASES

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#### 3/4.9.9 CONTAINMENT PURGE AND EXHAUST ISOLATION SYSTEM

The OPERABILITY of this system ensures that the containment vent and purge penetrations will be automatically isolated upon detection of high radiation levels within the containment. The OPERABILITY of this system is required to restrict the release of radioactive material from the containment atmosphere to the environment.

#### 3/4.9.10 and 3/4.9.11 WATER LEVEL - REACTOR VESSEL and STORAGE POOL

The restrictions on minimum water level ensure that sufficient water depth is available to remove 99% of the assumed 10% iodine gap activity released from the rupture of an irradiated fuel assembly. The minimum water depth is consistent with the assumptions of the accident analysis.

#### 3/4.9.12 and 3/4.9.13 STORAGE POOL VENTILATION SYSTEM

The limitations on the storage pool ventilation system ensure that all radioactive material released from an irradiated fuel assembly will be filtered through the HEPA filters and charcoal adsorber prior to discharge to the atmosphere. The OPERABILITY of this system and the resulting iodine removal capacity are consistent with the assumptions of the accident analyses.

The note regarding PRF electrical system OPERABILITY is provided for clarification to specification 3/4.9.13. In MODES 5 and 6, the electrical power requirements do not require considering a single failure coincident with a loss of all offsite or all onsite power. The design basis for electrical sources during refueling requires at least one offsite circuit through the 1E distribution system be operable and at least one of the emergency diesels be operable. The electrical requirements of 3.8.1.2 meet the electrical sources OPERABILITY requirements for two independent PRF systems.

#### 3/4.9.14 CONTAINMENT PURGE EXHAUST FILTER

The operability of the containment purge exhaust filter ensures that in the event of a fuel handling accident in the containment the radioactive materials released are filtered and adsorbed prior to reaching the environment.





UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY, INC.

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-364

JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 2

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 126  
License No. NPF-8

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
  - A. The application for amendment by Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. (Southern Nuclear), dated June 13, 1997, as supplemented by letter dated January 7, 1998, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
  - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
  - D. The issuance of this license amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
  - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications, as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment; and paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-8 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendices A and B, as revised through Amendment No. 126, are hereby incorporated in the license. Southern Nuclear shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "H. N. Berkow", with the word "for" written in smaller letters below it.

Herbert N. Berkow, Director  
Project Directorate II-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:  
Changes to the Technical  
Specifications

Date of Issuance: February 5, 1998

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 126

TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-8

DOCKET NO. 50-364

Replace the following pages of the Appendix A Technical Specifications with the enclosed pages. The revised areas are indicated by marginal lines.

Remove

3/4 9-15

B 3/4 9-3

Insert

3/4 9-15

B 3/4 9-3

REFUELING OPERATIONS

3/4.9.13 STORAGE POOL VENTILATION (FUEL MOVEMENT)

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

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3.9.13 Two independent penetration room filtration systems (Specification 3.7.8) shall be OPERABLE \* and aligned to the spent fuel pool room:

APPLICABILITY: During crane operation with loads, over the fuel in the spent fuel pit and during fuel movement within the spent fuel pit.

ACTION:

- a. With one penetration room filtration system inoperable return both systems to OPERABLE status within 48 hours or suspend all movement of fuel and crane operation with loads over the spent fuel in the storage pool room.
- b. The provisions of Specification 3.0.3 and 3.0.4 are not applicable.

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

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4.9.13.1 Two penetration room filtration systems shall be verified to be aligned to the spent fuel pool room within 12 hours prior to fuel handling or crane operations in the storage pool room and at least once per 24 hours thereafter until fuel movement operations in the storage pool room are suspended.

4.9.13.2 The penetration room filtration system shall be demonstrated OPERABLE per the requirements of Specification 4.7.8.

4.9.13.3 At least once per 18 months verify that the normal spent fuel pool system ventilation system will isolate upon receipt of either;

- a. The spent fuel pool ventilation low differential pressure test signal, or
- b. A spent fuel pool high radiation test signal.

\* The normal or emergency power source may be inoperable in MODE 5 or 6 provided that the requirements of TS 3.8.1.2 are satisfied.

## REFUELING OPERATIONS

### BASES

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#### 3/4.9.9 CONTAINMENT PURGE AND EXHAUST ISOLATION SYSTEM

The OPERABILITY of this system ensures that the containment vent and purge penetrations will be automatically isolated upon detection of high radiation levels within the containment. The OPERABILITY of this system is required to restrict the release of radioactive material from the containment atmosphere to the environment.

#### 3/4.9.10 and 3/4.9.11 WATER LEVEL - REACTOR VESSEL and STORAGE POOL

The restrictions on minimum water level ensure that sufficient water depth is available to remove 99% of the assumed 10% iodine gap activity released from the rupture of an irradiated fuel assembly. The minimum water depth is consistent with the assumptions of the accident analysis.

#### 3/4.9.12 and 3/4.9.13 STORAGE POOL VENTILATION SYSTEM

The limitations on the storage pool ventilation system ensure that all radioactive material released from an irradiated fuel assembly will be filtered through the HEPA filters and charcoal adsorber prior to discharge to the atmosphere. The OPERABILITY of this system and the resulting iodine removal capacity are consistent with the assumptions of the accident analyses.

The note regarding PRF electrical system OPERABILITY is provided for clarification to specification 3/4.9.13. In MODES 5 and 6, the electrical power requirements do not require considering a single failure coincident with a loss of all offsite or all onsite power. The design basis for electrical sources during refueling requires at least one offsite circuit through the 1E distribution system be operable and at least one of the emergency diesels be operable. The electrical requirements of 3.8.1.2 meet the electrical sources OPERABILITY requirements for two independent PRF systems.

#### 3/4.9.14 CONTAINMENT PURGE EXHAUST FILTER

The operability of the containment purge exhaust filter ensures that in the event of a fuel handling accident in the containment the radioactive materials released are filtered and adsorbed prior to reaching the environment.



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 134 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-2  
AND AMENDMENT NO. 126 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-8  
SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY, INC., ET AL.  
JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2  
DOCKET NOS. 50-348 AND 50-364

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated June 13, 1997, as supplemented by letter dated January 7, 1998, the Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. (SNC) et al. , submitted a request for changes to the Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2, Technical Specifications (TS). The requested changes would (1) add a note to TS 3.9.13 to specifically indicate the normal or emergency power supply may be inoperable in Modes 5 or 6 provided that the requirements of TS 3.8.1.2 are satisfied; and (2) extend the TS 3.9.13 completion time allowed for returning one out-of-service penetration room filtration system from 48 hours to 7 days. Subsequently, by letter dated January 7, 1998, SNC requested to eliminate part 2, mentioned above, from the original submittal, which constituted a partial withdrawal of the license amendment application. The Commission issued a *Notice of Withdrawal of Application for Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses* published in the Federal Register on January 21, 1998 (63 FR 3174).

The January 7, 1998, revision to the June 13, 1997, application did not change the initial proposed no significant hazards consideration determination.

2.0 EVALUATION

The staff has reviewed the proposed changes to TS 3.9.13 and its associated Bases section of the TS for the penetration room filtration (PRF) system for Farley Units 1 and 2. The staff's evaluation is as follows:

Addition of a Footnote (\*) to TS 3.9.13

The purpose of the PRF system is to ensure that radioactive material released as a result of a fuel handing accident (FHA) in the spent fuel pool room will be filtered through the high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters and charcoal absorbers prior to discharge to the atmosphere. For each unit, there are two PRF systems located in two trains. To support PRF function during refueling operations (Modes 5 and 6), TS 3.9.13 currently states:

Two independent penetration room filtration systems (Specification 3.7.8) shall be OPERABLE and aligned to the spent fuel pool room:

SNC proposed to add a note (\*) after the word OPERABLE that states:

\* The normal or emergency power source may be inoperable in MODE 5 or 6 provided that the requirements of TS 3.8.1.2 are satisfied.

According to TS 3.9.13, both independent PRF systems are required to be operable when the PRF system is aligned to the spent fuel pool room during fuel movement. Because the TS does not explicitly state the electrical power requirement (e.g., either the offsite or emergency diesel generator (EDG), or both) for each PRF system, the application of the TS definition of "Operability" requires both a normal and an emergency electrical power source to make a PRF system operable. Furthermore, to make both PRF systems operable at Farley, TS 3.9.13 could be interpreted as requiring that at least two offsite circuits and two EDGs must be operable when the PRF system is aligned to the spent fuel room during refueling operations. Since TS 3.8.1.2, "Electrical Power Systems," requires one offsite circuit to the onsite Class 1E distribution system and one of the EDGs to be operable for the electrical power source during refueling (Mode 5 and 6), SNC states that such an interpretation of TS 3.9.13 would be inconsistent with TS 3.8.1.2 for the plant operating Modes 5 and 6 at Farley.

In accordance with the Bases section (B.3.8.2), "AC Sources - Shutdown," of "Electrical Power Systems" in the Improved Standard TS (ISTS), the assumption of a single failure and concurrent loss of all offsite or all onsite power (e.g., two offsites and two EDGs) is not required. But, the TS should ensure the capability to support systems necessary to avoid immediate difficulty, by assuming either a loss of all offsite power or a loss of all onsite power. Therefore, in order to ensure that the unit has the capability to mitigate the consequences of postulated accidents during movement of irradiated fuel assemblies, SNC aligns electrical power as follows: (1) with one of the offsite power supplies available during refueling, both PRF systems are powered by cross-connecting two trains; and (2) should a loss of offsite power occur, it will render one train of the PRF system inoperable due to load shedding of the cross-connected load centers. However, SNC stated that the control room operator can reconnect the inoperable PRF system to the operable power train manually by closing the circuit breakers. SNC believes that the allowance to have both PRF systems powered in accordance with TS 3.8.1.2, when they are aligned to the spent fuel pool room, is consistent with the Farley licensing basis.

SNC has also reviewed the applicable accident analyses, that demonstrate a single PRF system is capable of ensuring that 10 CFR Part 100 limits of offsite dose are not reached in the event that the worst case assumed—dropped fuel assembly event—occurs. In order to resolve the TS definition of "Operability" that requires both a normal and an emergency electrical power source, which conflicts with the electrical power requirements in accordance with TS 3.8.1.2, SNC has proposed to add a note to TS 3.9.13 to clarify the application of TS definition of "Operability" relative to required electrical power sources for the PRF system when it is aligned to the spent pool during refueling operation.

The staff has reviewed the proposed note (\*) that provides clarification relative to the required electrical power sources for the PRF system when it is aligned to the spent pool room during refueling operation and finds it to be consistent with the Farley design basis for electrical sources. Therefore, the staff concludes that the addition of the footnote is acceptable.

#### Modification of Bases Sections 3/4.9.12 and 3/4.9.13

Currently, the Bases section of the TS concerning "Storage Pool Ventilation System" states:

The limitations on the storage pool ventilation system ensure that all radioactive material released from an irradiated fuel assembly will be filtered through the HEPA filters and charcoal absorber prior to discharge to the atmosphere. The OPERABILITY of this system and the resulting iodine removal capacity are consistent with the assumptions of the accident analyses.

The licensee proposed to add the following paragraph:

The note regarding PRF electrical system OPERABILITY is provided for clarification to specification 3/4.9.13. In MODES 5 and 6, the electrical power requirements do not require considering a single failure coincident with a loss of all offsite or all onsite power. The design basis for electrical sources during refueling requires at least one offsite circuit through the 1E distribution system be operable and at least one of the emergency diesels be operable. The electrical requirements of 3.8.1.2 meet the electrical sources OPERABILITY requirements for two independent PRF systems.

Since the electrical power requirements during refueling operations, as referenced in the Bases section (3 B.3.8.2) of the ISTS, to mitigate the consequences of the postulated accidents (e.g., FHA) do not require consideration of a single failure coincident with a loss of all offsite or all onsite power, the staff finds that the proposed modification of the TS Bases section is consistent with the footnote added to TS 3.9.13. Therefore, it is acceptable.

### 3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the State of Alabama official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendments. The State official had no comments.

### 4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendments change a requirement with respect to installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The NRC staff has determined that the amendments involve no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that



there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendments involve no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (62 FR 38138, July 16, 1997). Accordingly, the amendments meet the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendments.

#### 5.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendments will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: P. Kang

Date: February 5, 1998