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SEP 22 1982

Docket No. 50-364

Mr. F. L. Clayton
Senior Vice President
Alabama Power Company
Post Office Box 2641
Birmingham, Alabama 35291

Dear Mr. Clayton:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 17 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-8 for the Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant, Unit No. 2. The amendment consists of changes to the Technical Specifications in response to your application transmitted by letter dated August 2, 1982.

The amendment extends for one-time only the visual surveillance interval for inaccessible hydraulic snubbers until the refueling outage scheduled to begin on October 22, 1982. We have made a minor change to your proposal which has been discussed with and agreed to by your staff.

Copies of the Safety Evaluation and the Notice of Issuance are also enclosed.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Edward A. Reeves, Project Manager
Operating Reactors Branch #1
Division of Licensing

Enclosures:

- 1. Amendment No. 17 to NPF-8
- 2. Safety Evaluation
- 3. Notice of Issuance

cc w/enclosures:
See next page

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*no legal objection
to card or notes*

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SURNAME	CParrish	EReeves:ds	SVarga	GLomas	SWANSON		
DATE	09/14/82	09/16/82	09/15/82	09/15/82	09/17/82		

Mr. F. L. Clayton
Alabama Power Company

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Resident Inspector
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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ATTN: State Health Officer
State Office Building
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Atlanta, Georgia 30303



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

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-364

JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT NO. 2

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 17
License No. NPF-8

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment by Alabama Power Company (the licensee) dated August 2, 1982, 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 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.

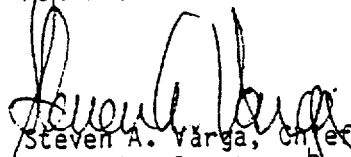
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-8 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendices A and B, as revised through Amendment No. 17, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

3. This license amendment is effective as of the date of its issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION


Steven A. Varga, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #1
Division of Licensing

Attachment:
Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: September 22, 1982

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT

AMENDMENT NO. 17 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-8

DOCKET NO. 50-364

Revise Appendix A as follows:

Remove Page

3/4 7-20

Insert Page

3/4 7-20

PLANT SYSTEMS

3/4.7.9 SNUBBERS

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

3.7.9 All snubbers listed in Tables 3.7-4a and 3.7-4b shall be OPERABLE.

APPLICABILITY: MODES 1, 2, 3 and 4. (MODES 5 and 6 for snubbers located on systems required OPERABLE in those MODES).

ACTION:

With one or more snubbers inoperable, within 72 hours replace or restore the inoperable snubber(s) to OPERABLE status and perform an engineering evaluation per Specification 4.7.9.c on the supported component or declare the supported system inoperable and follow the appropriate ACTION statement for that system.

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

4.7.9 Each snubber shall be demonstrated OPERABLE by performance of the following augmented inservice inspection program and the requirements of Specification 4.0.5.

a. Visual Inspections

The first inservice visual inspection of snubbers shall be performed after four months but within 10 months of POWER OPERATION and shall include all snubbers listed in Tables 3.7-4a and 3.7-4b. If less than two (2) snubbers are found inoperable during the first inservice visual inspection, the second inservice visual inspection shall be performed 12 months \pm 25% from the date of the first inspection. Otherwise, subsequent visual inspections shall be performed in accordance with the following schedule:

<u>No. Inoperable Snubbers per Inspection Period</u>	<u>Subsequent Visual Inspection Period*#</u>
0	18 months \pm 25%
1	12 months \pm 25%
2	6 months \pm 25%**
3,4	124 days \pm 25%
5,6,7	62 days \pm 25%
8 or more	31 days \pm 25%

The snubbers may be categorized into two groups: Those accessible and those inaccessible during reactor operation. Each group may be inspected independently in accordance with the above schedule.

* The inspection interval shall not be lengthened more than one step at a time.

The provisions of Specification 4.0.2 are not applicable.

**This period is extended on a one-time basis until the first refueling outage scheduled to begin October 22, 1982, for inaccessible snubbers.



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 17 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-8

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT NO. 2

DOCKET NO. 50-364

Introduction

By letter dated August 2, 1982, Alabama Power Company (APCO) advised that on February 10, 1982 two inaccessible hydraulic snubbers had been declared inoperable. Technical Specification 4.7.9.a is an augmented inservice inspection program requirement for a visual inspection to be performed after four months, but within ten months of the start of power operations. The specification states that if two snubbers are found inoperable during the first inspection, the second inspection shall be performed 6 months +25% from the date of the first inspection. This schedule would require approximately a five-day shutdown of Farley 2 for which APCO has requested relief.

Technical Specification 4.7.9.b establishes the visual inspection acceptance criteria. One criteria defining an inoperable snubber is that the fluid port of a hydraulic snubber is uncovered. When this is the case, the specification allows a functional test with the piston in the as found setting or the snubber must be declared inoperable. APCO personnel erroneously declared the two snubbers inoperable when it was reported "to have insufficient fluid in the reservoir." Operators reportedly refilled the reservoirs before performing further checks of the fluid port. Thus, the two snubbers had to be declared inoperable and removed from the system for functional tests. No seal deterioration or other causes of fluid leakage was found. Thus, the failures were evaluated by APCO as being of a non-recurring nature.

In order to preclude an unscheduled plant shutdown on September 25, 1982, with the scheduled refueling outage starting on October 22, 1982, APCO proposes a Technical Specification change on a one-time basis to allow the inspection to be accomplished during the refueling outage.

Discussion and Evaluation

On February 10, 1982, Surveillance for Technical Specification 4.7.9.a was performed at Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant, Unit 2. The surveillance involved a 100% visual inspection of all snubbers listed in Table 3.7-4a. Low levels of hydraulic fluid were discovered in the reservoirs of two inaccessible snubbers. The two snubbers were declared inoperable and removed from service. The reservoirs were refilled with hydraulic fluid, and then the snubbers were functionally tested. These results showed that both units functioned properly. Therefore, they were returned to service as operable. Examinations revealed no seal deterioration or other causes of leakage in the two snubbers. It appears that the low fluid level was caused by leakage at loose fittings.

Based on the determination by APCO personnel that the snubbers were inoperable, Technical Specification 4.7.9.b requires the inaccessible snubbers to be visually inspected by September 25, 1982. Since the plant is scheduled for the first refueling outage on October 22, 1982, a request was made to extend the required inspection by one month so the time will coincide with the first refueling outage.

The primary purpose of Technical Specification 4.7.9.a is to identify improper installations such as loose fittings or malfunctioning snubbers during the early plant operation. The Technical Specification permits the functional testing of seemingly inoperable snubbers under the "as found" condition. Should they then pass the test successfully, they would not be counted as inoperable snubbers for the purpose of establishing the subsequent inspection period. Thus, this provision separates a malfunctioning snubber from other failure causes as opposed to improper installation problems.

However, since hydraulic fluid was added to the two snubbers before the functional test, this required the two snubbers to be declared inoperable, even though they both successfully passed the subsequent functional test. Examination did not reveal seal deterioration or other causes for the leakage.

Summary

The snubbers have been returned to service in a verified operable condition. Also, the possible leakage due to loose fittings, not normally of a recurring nature, has been corrected. Therefore, we believe that the extension of the required inspection interval for these inaccessible snubbers for a period of one month, is justifiable. We approve the one-time Technical Specification changes with a minor change to the proposed wording which was agreed to by the APCO staff.

Environmental Consideration

We have determined that the amendment does not authorize a change in effluent types or total amounts nor an increase in power level and will not result in any significant environmental impact. Having made this determination, we have further concluded that the amendment involves an action

which is insignificant from the standpoint of environmental impact and, pursuant to 10 CFR §51.5(d)(4), that an environmental impact statement or negative declaration and environmental impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

Conclusion

We have concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that (1) because the amendment does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated, does not create the possibility of an accident of a type different from any evaluated previously, and does not involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety, the amendment does not involve a significant hazards consideration, (2) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, and (3) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations and the issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributors

E. A. Reeves
H. Shaw

Date: September 22, 1982

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONDOCKET NO. 50-364ALABAMA POWER COMPANYNOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO FACILITY
OPERATING LICENSE

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has issued Amendment No. 17 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-8 issued to Alabama Power Company (the licensee), which revised Technical Specifications for operation of the Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant, Unit No. 2 (the facility) located in Houston County, Alabama. The amendment is effective as of the date of issuance.

The amendment extends for one-time only the visual surveillance interval for inaccessible hydraulic snubbers until the refueling outage scheduled to begin on October 22, 1982.

The application for the amendment complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations. The Commission has made appropriate findings as required by the Act and the Commission's rules and regulations in 10 CFR Chapter I, which are set forth in the license amendment. Prior public notice of this amendment was not required since this amendment does not involve a significant hazards consideration.

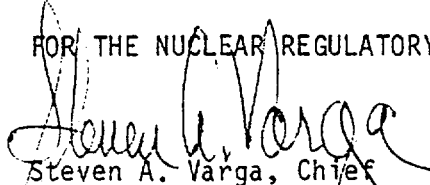
The Commission has determined that the issuance of this amendment will not result in any significant environmental impact and that pursuant to 10 CFR §51.5(d)(4) an environmental impact statement or negative declaration and environmental impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with issuance of this amendment.

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For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the application for amendment dated August 2, 1982, (2) Amendment No.17 to License No. NPF-8, and (3) the Commission's related Safety Evaluation. All of these items are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, NW., Washington, D. C. and at the George S. Houston Memorial Library, 212 W. Burdeshaw Street, Dothan, Alabama 36303. A copy of items (2) and (3) may be obtained upon request addressed to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. 20555, Attention: Director, Division of Licensing.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 22nd day of September, 1982.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION


Steven A. Varga, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #1
Division of Licensing