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Energy to Serve Your World™
NEL-02-0177

August 23, 2002

Docket No.: 50-348

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland 20852

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant – Unit 1
15-Day Response to NRC Bulletin 2002-02
Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Degradation and
Vessel Head Penetration Nozzle Inspection Programs

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.54(f) and pursuant to the requirements of Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Bulletin 2002-02, "Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Degradation and Vessel Head Penetration Nozzle Inspection Programs," dated August 9, 2002, Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) hereby submits for Farley Nuclear Plant (FNP) Unit 1 this 15-day response as provided by the Bulletin for cases where the requested inspection program information cannot be submitted within 30 days. A separate 30-day response letter will be sent providing the requested information for the upcoming FNP Unit 2 inspection.

SNC plans to inspect the FNP Unit 1 reactor vessel head and penetration nozzles during the next refueling outage (1R18, spring 2003) but cannot yet provide details of the inspection program to be implemented. As stated in SNC's March 29, 2002 and June 11, 2002 letters responding to Bulletin 2002-01, in planning the Unit 1 inspection, SNC intends to consider emergent industry experience and the results obtained during the upcoming fall 2002 outage inspection of FNP Unit 2. SNC will submit plans for the Unit 1 inspection within 30 days after completing the Unit 2 inspection; it is anticipated this submittal will occur in late October or early November. SNC believes this alternative course of action is acceptable since it involves only a small delay in submittal of the Unit 1 inspection plans with no delay in conduct of the inspection itself, while allowing SNC's inspection planning to benefit from knowledge gained in the fall outage season.

This letter contains no new NRC commitments. If you have any questions, please advise.

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Mr. D. N. Morey states that he is a Vice President of Southern Nuclear Operating Company, and is authorized to execute this oath on behalf of Southern Nuclear Operating Company and that to the best of his knowledge and belief, the facts set forth in this letter are true.

Respectfully submitted,

Southern Nuclear Operating Company



Dave Morey

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 23rd day of August, 2002.



Notary Public

My commission expires: 06/07/2005

DWD/sdl: Bulletin 2002-02 15-day U1 response.doc

cc: Southern Nuclear Operating Company
Mr. D. E. Grissette, General Manager - Farley

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C.
Mr. F. Rinaldi, NRR Project Manager - Farley

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region II
Mr. L. A. Reyes, Regional Administrator
Mr. T. P. Johnson, Senior Resident Inspector - Farley

