

September 25, 2003

Mr. Michael A. Krupa, Director
Nuclear Safety & Licensing
Entergy Operations, Inc.
1340 Echelon Parkway
Jackson, MS 39213-8298

SUBJECT: ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE, UNIT 2 (ANO-2) - RELAXATION REQUEST
FROM U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC)
ORDER EA-03-009 FOR THE VESSEL HEAD PENETRATION CONTROL
ELEMENT DRIVE MECHANISM (CEDM) NOZZLES (TAC NO. MB9542)

Dear Mr. Krupa:

By letter dated June 11, 2003, as supplemented by letters dated August 27 and September 12, 2003, you submitted a relaxation request from NRC Order EA-03-009. Specifically, you requested authorization to inspect the vessel head penetration CEDM nozzles using a three-step alternative, which involves the use of ultrasonic testing examination, analysis, and surface examination techniques.

Enclosed is a partial draft safety evaluation (SE) that the NRC staff has prepared to support the relaxation request. The enclosed partial draft SE is being withheld from public disclosure at this time because it may contain proprietary information.

We are providing this partial draft SE to you for the purpose of identifying if it contains any proprietary information pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790. (The staff has attempted to ensure that it does not contain proprietary information.) Please provide any comments that you may have on the enclosure with regard to inclusion of proprietary information within 3 working days. This target date for response has been discussed with Guy Davant of your staff. Should a situation occur which prevents you from meeting this date, please contact me.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Thomas W. Alexion, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate IV
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-368

Enclosure: Partial Draft SE

cc w/o Encl: See next page

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Arkansas Nuclear One

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March 2001