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October 13, 2003

Docket No.: 50-425

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D. C. 20555-0001

**Vogtle Electric Generating Plant - Unit 2
Results of Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Inspections
Required by Order EA-03-009**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On August 8 and August 30, 2003, Unit 2 of the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP-2) entered Mode 5 to investigate indications of reactor coolant system (RCS) leakage. During these outages, Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) completed inspections in accordance with the applicable requirements of Paragraph D of Section IV of NRC Order EA-03-009. SNC hereby reports the results of those inspections as required by Paragraph E of Section IV of the Order.

Results of August 8, 2003 Outage:

On August 8, 2003, SNC conducted a visual inspection of the Reactor Pressure Vessel Top Head (RPVH) inside the integrated head package and observed boric acid residue on two of the four conoseal assemblies, penetrations 76 and 77. The conoseals are mechanical joints on the four RPVH penetration extensions that form the pressure boundary for the incore thermocouples.

SNC performed a detailed RPVH penetration visual inspection in the area of penetrations 76 and 77, and a general visual inspection of other areas of the RPVH including the RPVH bare metal surface around the remaining two conoseal penetrations 75 and 78.

There was no apparent evidence of boric acid residue from active leakage at the interface between the RPVH and the penetration stalk of the inspected RPVH penetrations, nor apparent evidence of RPVH surface degradation of the inspected areas. Locations 76 and 77 had evidence of minimal streaming on the penetration stalk that appeared to originate from the suspected conoseal leak.

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Areas were cleaned sufficiently to determine that no wastage of the closure head had occurred. Mechanical connections were reworked and visual examinations were performed at operating pressure and temperature to verify connections were not leaking.

The examination performed was documented by a written report supplemented by video and photographic images supporting the examination findings. The report also provides a baseline for future examinations.

VEGP-2 returned to full power on August 17, 2003.

Results of August 30, 2003 Outage:

On August 30, 2003, VEGP-2 conducted another visual inspection of the RPVH inside the integrated head package and observed steam coming from the penetration 77 canopy seal weld. This penetration was one of the two conoseal penetrations that were suspected of leaking during the August 8, 2003, VEGP-2 outage. SNC performed a detailed RPVH penetration visual inspection in the area of penetration 77 and a general visual inspection of other areas of the RPVH. These areas included the RPVH bare metal surface around penetrations 76 and 77.

There was no apparent evidence of boric acid residue from active leakage at the interface between the RPVH and the penetration stalk of the inspected RPVH penetration 77, nor apparent evidence of RPVH surface degradation of the inspected areas.

The areas had been previously cleaned and inspected during the VEGP-2 August 8, 2003, outage and therefore very little boron residue was found. However, the areas were cleaned sufficiently to determine that no wastage of the closure head had occurred and to provide a baseline for future examinations. A mechanical clamp was installed to stop the canopy seal weld leak, and a visual examination was performed at operating pressure and temperature to verify connections were not leaking.

The examination performed was documented by video and photographic images supporting the examination findings. These images also provide a baseline for future examinations.

VEGP-2 returned to full power on September 4, 2003.

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

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

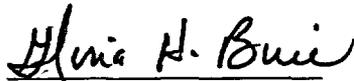
Respectfully submitted,

SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY

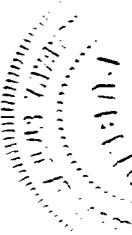


Jeffrey T. Gasser

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 13th day of October, 2003.



Notary Public



My commission expires: 06/07/05

JTG/DRG

cc: Southern Nuclear Operating Company
Mr. J. D. Woodard, Executive Vice President
Mr. W. F. Kitchens, General Manager – Plant Vogtle
Mr. M. Sheibani, Engineering Supervisor – Plant Vogtle
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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mr. L. A. Reyes, Regional Administrator
Mr. F. Rinaldi, NRR Project Manager – Vogtle
Mr. J. Zeiler, Senior Resident Inspector – Vogtle

State of Georgia
Mr. L. C. Barrett, Commissioner – Department of Natural Resources