Entergy

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F. G. Burford
Acting Director
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CNRO-2004-00008

February 3, 2004

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

SUBJECT: Relaxation Request to NRC Order EA-03-009 for Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Penetration Nozzles

Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1
Docket No. 50-313
License No. DPR-51

REFERENCES:

1. NRC Order EA-03-009, *Issuance of Order Establishing Interim Inspection Requirements for Reactor Pressure Vessel Heads at Pressurized Water Reactors*, dated February 11, 2003
2. Entergy Operations, Inc. letter CNRO-2003-00033 to the NRC, *Relaxation Request to NRC Order EA-03-009*, dated August 27, 2003
3. NRC letter to Entergy Operations, Inc., *Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2 (ANO-2) - Relaxation Request from U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Order EA-03-009 for the Control Element Drive Mechanism Nozzles (TAC No. MB9542)*, dated October 9, 2003
4. NRC letter to Entergy Operations, Inc., *Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3 (Waterford 3) - Relaxation Request from U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Order EA-03-009 for the Control Element Drive Mechanism Nozzles (TAC No. MB9644)*, dated November 12, 2003

Pursuant to Section IV.F of NRC Order EA-03-009 (Reference 1), Entergy Operations, Inc. (Entergy) requests relaxation from Section IV.C(1)(b) of the Order for Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1 (ANO-1). Specifically, the ANO-1 reactor pressure vessel (RPV) head penetration nozzles cannot be effectively examined to the bottom end of the nozzle as required by Section IV.C(1)(b). ANO-1 Relaxation Request #1 is provided in Enclosure 1. Enclosure 2 contains the fracture mechanics analysis report (Engineering Report M-EP-2004-001, Rev. 0) that supports the request.

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Engineering Report M-EP-2004-001 is supported by information pertaining to material properties and analytical methods used in performing the welding residual stress analyses. This information was provided by Dominion Engineering, Inc. (Dominion) via letters L-4162-00-1 and L-4142-00-1. Dominion Letter L-4162-00-1 was previously submitted to the NRC staff via referenced letter #2. Enclosure 3 contains Dominion Letter L-4142-00-1.

Information contained in Enclosure 3 is owned by Dominion and is considered to be proprietary and confidential in accordance with 10 CFR 2.790(a)(4) and 10 CFR 9.17(a)(4). As such, Dominion requests this information be withheld from public disclosure. The affidavit supporting this request is provided in Enclosure 4. Dominion has informed Entergy that the vast majority of Enclosure 3 is considered proprietary; therefore, Dominion considers it impractical to provide a non-proprietary version.

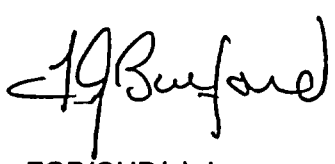
The NRC approved similar relaxation requests for Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 2 and Waterford Steam Electric Station, Unit 3, as documented in References 3 and 4, respectively.

Entergy requests approval of this proposed relaxation request by April 20, 2004 in order to support inspection activities scheduled during the upcoming spring 2004 refueling outage (1R18) at ANO-1.

This letter contains commitments as identified in Enclosure 5.

Should you have any questions, please contact Guy Davant at (601) 368-5756.

Sincerely,



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Enclosures:
1. Relaxation Request #1 for Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1
2. Engineering Report M-EP-2004-001, Rev. 0
3. Proprietary Information – Dominion Engineering, Inc. Letter L-4142-00-1, *Material Properties and Modeling Methods Used in ANO Unit 1 Welding Residual Stress Analyses*
4. Affidavit for Withholding Information from Public Disclosure
5. Licensee-Identified Commitments

cc: (See Next Page)

cc: Mr. W. A. Eaton (ECH) (w/ Enclosures 1 and 5, only)
Mr. J. S. Forbes (ANO) (w/ Enclosures 1 and 5, only)

Dr. Bruce S. Mallett (w/ Enclosure 1 and 5, only)
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