

L. M. Stinson (Mike)
Vice President

Southern Nuclear
Operating Company, Inc.
40 Inverness Center Parkway
Post Office Box 1295
Birmingham, Alabama 35201

Tel 205.992.5181
Fax 205.992.0341



January 28, 2005

Docket No.: 50-364

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

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant - Unit 2
Response to Questions Related to ASME Section XI Request for Relief Number RR-56
Examination of Reactor Pressure Vessel Circumferential Weld

Ladies and Gentlemen:

By letter dated March 31, 2004, Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) submitted a request for relief for the examination of the Reactor Pressure Vessel (RPV) lower shell to bottom head circumferential weld. During discussions with the NRC staff on January 18, 2005, the NRC requested additional information. Enclosed are the NRC questions and the SNC responses to those questions.


As stated previously, in the March 31, 2004 letter, SNC requests that the NRC approve the request for relief by March 31, 2005

Mr. L. M. Stinson 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.

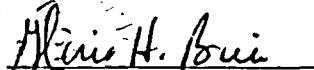
This letter contains no NRC commitments. If you have any questions, please advise.

Respectfully submitted,

SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY


L. M. Stinson

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28th day of January, 2005.


Notary Public

My commission expires: 6-7-05

LMS/JLS/sdl

A047

Enclosure: SNC Response to NRC Questions

cc: Southern Nuclear Operating Company
Mr. J. T. Gasser, Executive Vice President
Mr. J. R. Johnson, General Manager – Plant Farley
RTYPE: CFA04.054; LC# 14205

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Dr. W. D. Travers, Regional Administrator
Mr. S. E. Peters, NRR Project Manager – Farley
Mr. C. A. Patterson, Senior Resident Inspector – Farley

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant - Unit 2
Response to Questions Related to ASME Section XI Request for Relief Number RR-56
Examination of Reactor Pressure Vessel Circumferential Weld

Enclosure

SNC Response to NRC Questions

NRC Question 1

Provide the 10-yr ISI interval in which the relief is requested. In addition, provide the start and end date of the subject interval. And provide the applicable Code Edition/Addenda of the subject 10-year interval.

SNC Response:

RR-56 is applicable to the Second Ten year Interval for Farley-2 which went from July 30, 1991 to July 29, 2001.

It should be noted that, per letter dated January 9, 1997, SNC requested authorization to update the Unit 2 ISI program to a later Code version (in conjunction with the 120 month update of the Unit 1 program) so that the 1989 Edition of ASME Section XI would be applicable to both Unit 1 and Unit 2. The NRC approved this approach per Letter dated March 20, 1997, TAC NOS. M97735 and M97736.

NRC Question 2

Provide the date in which the examinations were performed or going to be performed. It was not clear in the licensee's letter dated March 31, 2004 if the examinations were already performed or if they were going to be performed in the future prior to November 30, 2007.

SNC Response:

The examinations were performed in November 1999. The examination was for the third period of the second interval.