

Licensee/Facility:

SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING CO., INC.
Farley
Ashford, Alabama
Dockets: 050-00348 050-00364
[1] W-3-LP, [2] W-3-LP

Notification:

MR Number: 2-2006-0002
Date: 04/26/2006

Subject: FARLEY SPECIAL INSPECTION TO REVIEW UNIT 1 MAIN STEAM ISOLATION VALVE FAILURES

Discussion:

On or around April 8, 2006, the licensee conducted an as-found closure test of the Unit 1 main steam isolation valves (MSIVs) following unit shutdown for a scheduled refueling outage. Two of three outboard MSIVs failed to move and one outboard MSIV achieved only a partial stroke. All inboard MSIVs, which are of similar design, appear to have functioned properly and fully closed. The circumstances of this event met the NRC Management Directive 8.3, "NRC Incident Investigation Program," deterministic and conditional risk criteria for increased NRC response.

On April 24, 2006, the licensee successfully performed a partial movement test of the Unit 2 MSIVs which provided some assurance that the Unit 2 valves are operable. However, the Special Inspection will review the root cause analysis of the MSIV failures and continue to assess any implications of the Unit 1 failures on the Unit 2 MSIV operability evaluation.

The Special Inspection will identify the circumstances surrounding this event and review the licensee's actions following discovery of the conditions.

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