

**Southern Nuclear  
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October 8, 2007

Docket No.: 50-364

NL-07-1612

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

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant – Unit 2  
FNP-ISI-ALT-01, Version 1.0, Proposed Alternative in Accordance With  
10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i)

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a, Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) hereby requests NRC approval of proposed Alternative FNP-ISI-ALT-01 to change the Farley Nuclear Plant (FNP) Unit 2 ISI interval dates to correspond to the FNP Unit 1 ISI interval dates. This duration of this alternative is throughout the licensed life of FNP-2.

The details of the 10 CFR 50.55a request are contained in the enclosure. Approval is requested by September 14, 2008, to support 4th interval examinations to be performed during the Fall 2008 Outage at FNP-2.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. J. George", is written over a horizontal line.

B. J. George  
Manager, Nuclear Licensing

BJG/JLS/pr

Enclosure: FNP-ISI-ALT-01, Version 1.0, Proposed Alternative in Accordance  
With 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i)

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cc: Southern Nuclear Operating Company  
Mr. J. T. Gasser, Executive Vice President  
Mr. J. R. Johnson, Vice President – Plant Farley  
Mr. D. H. Jones, Vice President – Engineering  
RType: CFA04.054; LC# 14631

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Dr. W. D. Travers, Regional Administrator  
Ms. K. R. Cotton, NRR Project Manager – Farley  
Mr. E. L. Crowe, Senior Resident Inspector – Farley

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**Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant – Unit 2**

**Enclosure**

**FNP-ISI-ALT-01, Version 1.0, Proposed Alternative in Accordance With  
10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i)**

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10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i)**

**Plant Site - UNIT:** Farley Nuclear Plant (FNP) Unit 2

**Interval-  
Interval Dates:** The initial ten-year interval for FNP-2 was established using the Commercial Operation date of July 30, 1981. Subsequently, the 3<sup>rd</sup> ISI interval began on July 31, 2001. (Note: This proposed alternative will change the interval dates.)

**Requested Date  
for Approval:** Approval is requested by September 14, 2008, to support 4th interval examinations to be performed during the Fall 2008 Outage at FNP-2.

**ASME Code  
Components  
Affected:** All Class 1, 2, and 3 components.

**Applicable  
Code Edition  
and Addenda:** ASME Section XI, 2001 Edition through the 2003 Addenda.

**Applicable Code  
Requirements:** IWA-2432 Inspection Program B defines that, except as modified by IWA-2430(d), that the 1<sup>st</sup> inspection interval is 10 years following the start of commercial operation and that successive inspection intervals are 10 years following the previous inspection interval.

**Reason for  
Request:** Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) is proposing to change the FNP-2 ISI Interval to coincide with the FNP-1 ISI Interval to facilitate maintaining effective control over both ISI programs.

**Proposed  
Alternative and  
Basis for Use:** Background

By letter dated January 9, 1997, SNC requested approval to early update (by about 44 months) the Section XI Code used by FNP-2 to coincide with that for FNP-1, which was in the process of updating to the 1989 Edition of Section XI (no addenda) for the 3<sup>rd</sup> ISI interval. SNC also indicated that it would continue to update the ISI programs concurrently throughout the

**FNP-ISI-ALT-01, Version 1.0, Proposed Alternative in Accordance With  
10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i)**

licensed life of the units. The request was granted by NRC letter dated March 20, 1997 (TAC Numbers M97735 and M97736).

**Proposed Alternative**

The early update process described above allowed the same Section XI Code to be used by both units; however, the ISI interval dates were not aligned. To align the ISI interval dates for FNP-1 and FNP-2, it is proposed that FNP-2 3<sup>rd</sup> ISI interval be terminated on November 30, 2007. The new 4<sup>th</sup> ISI interval for FNP-2, using the 2001 Edition of ASME Section XI through the 2003 Addenda, would start on December 1, 2007, and end on November 30, 2017.

**Basis for Use**

This change will impose identical inservice inspection requirements on the components and systems of each unit which will facilitate maintaining effective control over both programs, but will not result in deletion of examinations that were previously scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> interval or that had been deferred to the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> interval. Instead, the FNP-2 examination scope originally scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> period of the 3<sup>rd</sup> ISI interval will be examined during the 1<sup>st</sup> period of the 4<sup>th</sup> ISI interval except those which are no longer required per later Code requirements. This process of shifting examinations to a new ISI period will continue throughout the remainder of the operating life of FNP-2. This results in ISI examinations being performed at the same time as was planned originally.

This methodology has previously been established for Hatch Nuclear Plant (HNP) Units 1 and 2 and Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) Units 1 and 2. This administrative change will allow FNP to use the same methodology as established for the other SNC sites and will continue to provide an acceptable level of quality and safety. Therefore, approval is requested per 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i).

**Duration of  
Proposed  
Alternative:**

Throughout the licensed life of FNP-2.

**Precedents:**

SNC has implemented similar changes at HNP-2 and VEGP-2.

**References:**

The SER for HNP-2 was issued on September 29, 1986. VEGP proposed their alternative in an SNC letter to the NRC dated August 16, 1996. The NRC issued their SER in a letter dated December 31, 1998 – TAC numbers M98977, M98978, MA3364, and MA3365.

**Status:**

Awaiting NRC approval.