

December 28, 2007

Mr. Thomas D. Walt, Vice President
H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant,
Unit No. 2
Carolina Power & Light Company
3581 West Entrance Road
Hartsville, South Carolina 29550-0790

SUBJECT: H.B. ROBINSON STEAM ELECTRIC PLANT, UNIT NO. 2 - GENERIC LETTER 2004-02, "POTENTIAL IMPACT OF DEBRIS BLOCKAGE ON EMERGENCY RECIRCULATION DURING DESIGN-BASIS ACCIDENTS AT PRESSURIZED WATER REACTORS," EXTENSION REQUEST EVALUATION (TAC NO. MC4709)

Dear Mr. Walt:

By letter dated December 19, 2007, Carolina Power & Light Company (the licensee), submitted a request for an extension of the corrective action due date for Generic Letter (GL) 2004-02, "Potential Impact of Debris Blockage on Emergency Recirculation During Design Basis Accidents at Pressurized Water Reactors" at the H.B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, Unit No. 2.

In its letter, the licensee stated that the strainer installation, analyses, and testing that have been completed provide confidence that the issues associated with strainer performance and GL 2004-02 have been satisfactorily resolved, but that additional time beyond the due date of December 31, 2007, is needed to complete internal reviews. Therefore, the licensee requested an extension of the compliance due date until February 29, 2008, to allow time for completion of these internal review activities.

The licensee further stated that it considers its request to fall under Case 1 from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's letter to the Nuclear Energy Institute dated November 8, 2007, on the subject of plant-specific extension requests for completion of corrective actions associated with GL 2004-02. The November 8, 2007, letter states that Case 1 applies to plants that have completed enough testing and analysis to have confidence that they have satisfactorily resolved the issues associated with strainer performance and GL 2004-02, but cannot complete necessary internal reviews in time to submit the final results to the NRC by the end of 2007. The November 8, 2007, letter notes that the NRC considers these situations of very low safety significance.

The NRC staff has reviewed the licensee's request and concludes that it is consistent with Case 1 in the November 8, 2007, NRC letter, and it is, therefore, acceptable to extend the due date for completion of the licensee's internal reviews of the strainer installation, analyses, and testing that have been completed, until February 29, 2008. Accordingly, completion of the corrective actions for GL 2004-02 should be reported to the NRC by February 29, 2008.

T. Walt

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If you have any questions regarding this issue, please feel free to contact Marlayna Vaaler at (301) 415-3178.

Sincerely,

/RA by S. Bailey acting for/

Thomas H. Boyce, Chief
Plant Licensing Branch II-2
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-261

cc: See next page

T. Walt

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If you have any questions regarding this issue, please feel free to contact Marlayna Vaaler at (301) 415-3178.

Sincerely,

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Plant Licensing Branch II-2
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Carolina Power & Light Company

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Unit No. 2**

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