

December 28, 2007

Robert J. Duncan II, Vice President  
Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant  
Carolina Power & Light Company  
Post Office Box 165, Mail Code: Zone 1  
New Hill, North Carolina 27562-0165

SUBJECT: SHEARON HARRIS NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, UNIT 1 - 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. MC4688)

Dear Mr. Duncan:

By letter dated December 20, 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 Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant, Unit No. 1 (HNP).

In its letter, the licensee stated that the strainer installation, debris generation and transport analyses, and strainer head loss and chemical effects testing have been completed. The letter also stated that the strainer installation, analyses, and testing provide confidence that HNP has satisfactorily resolved the issues associated with strainer performance and GL 2004-02. However, the licensee stated that it does not appear HNP's internal reviews will be completed in time to allow submission of the final results to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) by the compliance due date of December 31, 2007. Therefore, an extension of the due date until March 31, 2008, was requested 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 NRC staff's letter to the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) 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 until March 31, 2008. Accordingly, completion of the corrective actions for GL 2004-02 should be reported to the NRC by March 31, 2008.

R. Duncan

- 2 -

Consistent with NRC guidance provided in a letter to NEI dated November 30, 2007, the licensee should submit a supplemental response to GL 2004-02 to the NRC by February 29, 2008, addressing all available information as discussed in the NRC's content guide for these submittals, provided to NEI by letters dated August 15, 2007, and November 21, 2007.

The submittal should also consider the items that remain to be addressed (e.g., not available to support the February 29, 2008, GL 2004-02 submittal). Given the short time between the due date for the GL 2004-02 submittal and the expiration of the extension authorized for HNP, the NRC encourages the licensee to make every effort to complete remaining reviews in time to provide a complete supplemental response by February 29, 2008. Doing so would avoid the need for the licensee to prepare, and the NRC staff to review, two submittals.

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

Sincerely,

***/RA by S. Bailey for/***

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

Docket No. 50-400

cc: See next page

R. Duncan

- 2 -

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\* by memo dated

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