

From: Robert Martin
Sent: Wednesday, July 02, 2008 1:36 PM
To: INTERNET: rdbaker@southernco.com
Cc: Matthew Mitchell; Edward Andruszkiewicz
Subject: Acceptance for review of ISI ALT-08-02, Version1

July 2, 2008

Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC)

SUBJECT: Acceptance of Hatch Relief Request dated June 11, 2008

By letter dated June 11, 2008 (NL-08-0877), SNC submitted a relief request for the Hatch Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2. The proposed relief request would allow the application of full-structural weld overlays over dissimilar metal welds. The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staffs acceptance review of this relief request. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review. The acceptance review is also intended to identify whether the application has any readily apparent information insufficiencies in its characterization of the regulatory requirements or the licensing basis of the plant.

Pursuant to Sections 50.55a(a)(3)(i) and 50.55a(a)(3)(ii) of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), the applicant shall demonstrate that the proposed alternatives would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety, or that compliance with the specified requirements of Section 50.55a would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality or safety.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the staff to proceed with its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. If additional information is needed for the staff to complete its technical review, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

If you have any questions, please contact me on 301 415-1493.

Bob Martin, Project Manager
LPL 2-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No(s): 50-321, 50-366