July 29, 2008

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 – ACCEPTANCE REVIEW REGARDING FOURTH 10-YEAR INTERVAL INSERVICE INSPECTION PROGRAM RELIEF REQUEST ON WELD EXAMINATIONS (TAC NO. MD8955)

Dear Mr. Walt:

By letter dated June 6, 2008, Carolina Power and Light Company, now doing business as Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc., submitted a relief request for the H.B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, Unit No. 2 (HBRSEP). The proposed relief request would authorize an alternative for examination of the reactor pressure vessel. The relief request pertains to the fourth 10-year inservice inspection program interval at HBRSEP.

Pursuant to Sections 50.55a(a)(3)(i) and 50.55a(a)(3)(ii) of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, 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 purpose of this letter is to provide the final results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this 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 and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed change. 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.

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. Should you have any questions regarding this review, please contact me at (301) 415-3178.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Marlayna Vaaler, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-2
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-261

cc: See next page

environment. If additional information is needed for the staff to complete its technical review, you will be advised by separate correspondence. Should you have any questions regarding this review, please contact me at (301) 415-3178.

Sincerely,

/RA/
Marlayna Vaaler, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-2
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-261

cc: See next page

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Mr. T. D. Walt
Carolina Power & Light Company

cc:

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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Resident Inspector's Office
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**H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant,
Unit No. 2**

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