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OCAN011002

January 11, 2010

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: Clarification of Response to Generic Letter 2007-01
Arkansas Nuclear One – Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. 50-313 and 50-368
License Nos. DPR-51 and NPF-6

REFERENCES: 1. NRC Generic Letter 2007-01, Inaccessible or Underground Power Cable Failures that Disable Accident Mitigation Systems or Cause Plant Transients dated February 7, 2007
2. Arkansas Nuclear One (ANO), Units 1 and 2 Response to Generic Letter 2007-01 dated May 7, 2007
3. Arkansas Nuclear One - NRC Component Design Bases Inspection Report dated September 11, 2009

Dear Sir or Madam:

In Reference 1, Requested Information Item 2, the NRC requested that facilities submit the following information to the NRC within 90 days of the date of the Generic Letter:

“Describe inspection, testing and monitoring programs to detect the degradation of inaccessible or underground power cables that support emergency diesel generators, offsite power, essential service water, service water, component cooling water, and other systems that are within the scope of 10CFR50.65 (the maintenance rule).”

ANO responded to the request as follows:

“ANO inspection, testing, and monitoring practices presently include visual cable inspection during routine operations, periodic meggering of cables and connected equipment associated with maintenance activities, and periodic inspection of manholes for dewatering. The ANO corrective action program is used to determine root cause and extent of conditions where deemed necessary and would be the mechanism for determining the need for and extent of any increased cable monitoring.”

The ANO response to this Generic Letter request has been identified as less than adequate, pursuant to 10CFR50.9, as indicated in Reference 3. Specifically, the NRC violation noted “there was no evidence that these manholes or cables had ever been periodically or routinely inspected for Unit-1, and none of the cables for either of the units were being routinely inspected as the licensee had asserted.”

At the time of the Generic Letter response, ANO did not have formal inspection, testing, or monitoring programs in place to specifically test underground cables referenced in the Generic Letter.

ANO is currently in the process of dewatering and inspecting selected manholes that have been identified to contain safety related cables, or contain cables that are within the scope of 10CFR 50.65 (Maintenance Rule). The identification and inspection of all manholes and cables is not yet complete. Deficiencies that are discovered during the inspection activities are being documented and tracked in the ANO corrective action process. Additionally, ANO is involved with an Entergy Fleet initiative to develop and implement a Fleet-wide cable reliability program.

No new commitments are identified in this submittal. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact David Bice at (479) 858-5338.

This information is being provided pursuant to the requirements of 10CFR50.54(f). I declare under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing information is true and correct. Executed on January 11, 2010.

Sincerely,

Original signed by K. T. Walsh

KTW/slc

cc: Mr. Elmo Collins
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