



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 5, 2010

Mr. Mark J. Ajluni
Manager, Nuclear Licensing
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc
40 Inverness Center Parkway
Post Office Box 1295
Birmingham, AL 35201

SUBJECT: JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2 - GENERIC LETTER
2004-02 SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE (TAC NOS. MC4684 AND MC4685)

Dear Mr. Ajluni:

By letters dated February 28, April 29, and December 17, 2008; July 27, 2009; and March 30, 2010; Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) submitted supplemental responses to Generic Letter (GL) 2004-02, "Potential Impact of Debris Blockage on Emergency Recirculation during Design Basis Accidents at Pressurized-Water Reactors," for Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant (FNP), Units 1 and 2. We have reviewed your submittals with a process that involved a detailed review by a team of 10 subject matter experts, with focus on the review areas described in the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) "Content Guide for Generic Letter 2004-02 Supplemental Responses" (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML073110389). The review process also included a separate review of your submittal informed by inputs from the subject matter experts that focused on whether you have demonstrated overall that your corrective actions for GL 2004-02 are adequate.

The NRC staff has no further questions for FNP at this time regarding completion of corrective actions for GL 2004-02. This conclusion is based on the NRC staff's evaluation of your submittals, with emphasis on your responses to an NRC staff request for additional information dated March 9, 2009.

As you may be aware, we have not yet issued a final safety evaluation (SE) on WCAP-16793-NP, "Evaluation of Long-Term Cooling Considering Particulate, Fibrous, and Chemical Debris in the Recirculating Fluid." The NRC staff has reviewed the GL 2004-02 submittals for FNP and determined that SNC currently intends to rely on the conclusions reached in WCAP-16793-NP. Assuming disposition of WCAP-16793-NP results in NRC staff issuance of an SE, the NRC intends to send a letter requesting that SNC confirm whether it still intends to rely on the conclusions reached in WCAP-16793-NP for FNP. In addition, the letter will likely request a response within 60 days describing, (1) the means SNC used to determine the amount of debris that bypasses the emergency core cooling system strainer, (2) the fiber loading expected per fuel assembly for the cold-leg and hot-leg break scenarios based on information available as of the date of the letter, (3) the available head loss margins with bases for the cold-leg and hot-leg break scenarios using the WCAP-16793 acceptance criteria, and (4) SNC's planned actions for FNP should it exceed an acceptance criterion. The NRC staff will

M. Ajluni

- 2 -

notify you of the expected timeline for any needed actions at the time the SE is issued, or will notify you of expectations for additional licensee actions should an SE not be issued. We are not requesting any information from SNC on this subject at this time.

If you have any further questions on this matter, please contact me at 301-415-1493.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Martin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "R" at the beginning.

Robert Martin, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-348 and 50-364

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- 2 -

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/RA/

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