

January 3, 2011

MEMEORANDUM TO: Docket File

FROM: N. Kalyanam, Project Manager /RA/
Plant Licensing Branch IV
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE, UNIT 1 - VERBAL AUTHORIZATION
OF REQUEST FOR ALTERNATIVE, ANO1-R&R-013 (TAC
NO. ME3701)

By letter dated April 5, 2010 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML100950255), Entergy Operations, Inc. (the licensee), requested U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) approval of a proposed alternative in Relief Request ANO1-R&R-013 to the requirements of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (ASME Code) associated with the repair of pressurizer instrumentation penetration, RC-1001 A/B, at the Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1 (ANO-1). By letter dated April 12, 2010 (ADAMS Accession No. ML101050404), the licensee submitted its response to the NRC staff's request for additional information regarding the design, repair procedures, inspection, and flaw evaluations of the proposed instrumentation penetration repair.

Due to the immediate need of this relief request, the licensee requested a verbal authorization for the use of the request for alternative, ANO1-R&R-013, to facilitate the plant restart.

On the basis of its review, the NRC staff concluded that the proposed alternative would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety. In accordance with the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation procedure, and pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i), the NRC staff granted verbal authorization for the use of Relief Request ANO1-R&R-013 for the repair of pressurizer instrumentation nozzle RC-1001 A/B at ANO-1 as of April 12, 2010, at 13:07 hours.

The participants from the NRC staff were:

Mike Markley, NRR/DORL Branch Chief
Tim Lupold, NRR/DCI/CPNB Branch Chief
John Tsao, NRR/DCI/CPNB
Rezai Ali, NRR/DCI/CPNB
Kaly N. Kalyanam, NRR/DORL Project Manager

The participants from the licensee were:

Dale James (Director, Nuclear Safety Assurance)
William Sims (Manager, Major Projects)
David Bice (Acting Manager, Licensing)
Jamie Gobell (Project Manager)
Bob Clark (Licensing)

The NRC staff will proceed with completion of the written safety evaluation for the subject relief request. The NRC may ask additional clarification questions to complete its written safety evaluation, if necessary. It is expected that the licensee will provide response to those questions.

All other ASME Code, Section XI requirements for which relief was not specifically requested and approved in this relief request remain applicable, including third-party review by the Authorized Nuclear Inservice Inspector.

The licensee was also informed that if additional information was required later for the NRC staff to complete the safety evaluation, it will be submitted and the staff expects satisfactory response.

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The participants from the licensee were:

Dale James (Director, Nuclear Safety Assurance)
William Sims (Manager, Major Projects)
David Bice (Acting Manager, Licensing)
Jamie Gobell (Project Manager)
Bob Clark (Licensing)

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