Mark J. Ajluni, P.E.
Nuclear Licensing Director

Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
40 Inverness Center Parkway
Post Office Box 1295
Birmingham, Alabama 35201

Tel 205.992.7673
Fax 205.992.7885

SOUTHERN COMPANY

February 28, 2011

Docket Nos.: 50-321
50-366

NL-11-0323

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D. C. 20555-0001

Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant
Withdrawal of Relief Request RR-V-4, Version 2
Proposed Alternative in Accordance with 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(ii)

By letter NL-11-0162 dated January 26, 2011 Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) submitted proposed Version 2 to RR-V-4 for the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant (HNP), Units 1 and 2, Fourth 10-Year Interval Inservice Testing (IST) Program. Appendix I of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code for Operation and Maintenance of Nuclear Power Plants (OM Code) of record for HNP, Paragraph I-3410(d), requires that valves that have been maintained or refurbished in place, removed for maintenance and testing, or both, and reinstalled, shall be remotely actuated at reduced or normal system pressure to verify the open and close capability of the valve before resumption of electric power generation. The proposed revision to RR-V-4 identifies that, beginning with the refueling outage in Spring 2011 (2R21), HNP plans to replace the 2-stage Main Steam Safety Relief Valves (SRVs) with 3-stage SRVs. Therefore, RR-V-4 has been updated to include the alternative testing proposed for the 3-stage SRVs.

Previously, in letter NL-10-1021, in accordance with 10 CFR 50.55a, "Codes and Standards," paragraph (f)(4)(iv), SNC had requested NRC approval to use portions of a later edition and addenda of the OM Code for HNP – Unit 1 and Unit 2 IST Program.

Specifically, SNC requested approval to use ASME OM Code 2004 Edition, Mandatory Appendix I, "Inservice Testing of Pressure Relief Devices in Light-Water Reactor Nuclear Power Plants" as part of the HNP - Unit 1 and Unit 2 IST Program for testing of Class 1 Safety Relief Valves with Auxiliary Actuating Devices. The 2004 Edition of the ASME OM Code was incorporated into 10 CFR 50.55a(b)(3), with no new modifications or limitations. For HNP, the current code of record is the 2001 ASME OM Code Edition through 2003 Addenda. The use of the later edition and addenda of the ASME OM Code was requested for the remainder of the fourth 10-year IST interval, which began January 1st, 2006 and is scheduled to end on December 31st, 2015.

During a telephone conversation on February 9, 2011 the NRC requested SNC to withdraw RR-V-4, Version 2, based upon their decision to review SNC's previous request (NL-10-1021) to use ASME OM Code, 2004 Edition, Mandatory Appendix I in its entirety for the Class 1 SRVs.

Therefore, SNC hereby withdraws proposed RR-V-4, Version 2 for HNP Units 1 and 2. In the February 9, 2011 telephone conversation, the NRC indicated that they plan to complete their review of SNC's request contained in letter NL-10-1021 no later than April 10, 2011 to support the spring HNP Unit 2 refueling outage. This letter contains no NRC commitments.

If you have any questions, please contact Jack Stringfellow at (205) 992-7037.

Respectfully submitted,

M. J. Ajluni
Nuclear Licensing Director

MJA/PAH/lac

cc: Southern Nuclear Operating Company
Mr. J. T. Gasser, Executive Vice President
Mr. D. R. Madison, Vice President – Hatch
Ms. P. M. Marino, Vice President – Engineering
RTYPE: CHA02.004

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mr. V. M. McCree, Regional Administrator
Mr. P. G. Boyle, NRR Project Manager - Hatch
Mr. E. D. Morris, Senior Resident Inspector – Hatch