

50-261



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001
April 8, 1999

Mr. D. E. Young, Vice President
Carolina Power & Light Company
H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant,
Unit No. 2
3581 West Entrance Road
Hartsville, South Carolina 29550

SUBJECT: APPROVAL FOR THE THIRD 10-YEAR INTERVAL INSERVICE INSPECTION
PROGRAM PLAN REQUEST FOR RELIEF FOR H.B. ROBINSON STEAM
ELECTRIC PLANT, UNIT 2 (TAC NO MA3481)

Dear Mr. Young:

By letter dated August 31, 1998, Carolina Power & Light (CP&L) Company submitted its third 10-year interval inservice inspection (ISI) program plan for request for relief for H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, Unit 2. CP&L requested relief from the Code scheduling requirements of Reactor Pressure Vessel (RPV) examination categories B-A, B-D, B-F, and B-N-1, Revision 1. In an NRC relief request granted on March 1, 1995, the staff incorporated CP&L's commitments to perform the RPV examinations on or before October 27, 2000, that limited the period of time between RPV examinations in the third and fourth 10-year ISI intervals to 10 years. The current request is to permit you to perform the same during the Refueling Outage 20, beginning April 7, 2001, thus resulting in a delay of less than 6 months. You proposed to revise your commitment to perform RPV weld inspections at or near the end of the ISI interval without limiting the period of time between individual RPV weld or component examinations to 10 years.

The NRC staff has reviewed your request and concluded that the proposed alternative, to perform the RPV examination at or near the end of the third ISI interval, provides an acceptable level of quality and safety at the H.B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant, Unit 2. The proposed change to the CP&L commitment for Code relief will ensure that these inspections are completed in accordance with American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler & Pressure (B&PV) Code, Section XI, "Rules for Inservice Inspection of Nuclear Power Plant Components," before the end of the current third 10-year ISI interval. Therefore, the proposed alternative is authorized pursuant to 10CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i) for the current interval.

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D. E. Young

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Further details regarding the staff's evaluation and conclusions are contained in the enclosed Safety Evaluation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sheri R. Peterson".

Sheri R. Peterson, Chief, Section 2
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-261

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

D. E. Young

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April 8, 1999

Further details regarding the staff's evaluation and conclusions are contained in the enclosed Safety Evaluation.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Sheri R. Peterson, Chief, Section 2
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-261

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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**See previous concurrence

* SE dated March 1, 1999

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