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SUBJECT: Responds to NRC Bulletin 88-009, "Thimble Tube Thinning in Westinghouse Reactors."

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Carolina Power & Light Company

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P. O. Box 165
New Hill, North Carolina 27562

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United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
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DOCKET NO. 50-400/LICENSE NO. NPF-63
RESPONSE TO NRC BULLETIN NO. 88-09:
THIMBLE TUBE THINNING IN WESTINGHOUSE REACTORS

Gentlemen:

Carolina Power and Light Company (CP&L) hereby submits the information for the Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant (SHNPP) required by NRC Bulletin No. 88-09, "Thimble Tube Thinning in Westinghouse Reactors." This bulletin requested addresses to establish and implement an inspection program to periodically confirm thimble tube integrity as well as perform any corrective measures necessary to maintain thimble tube integrity within the program acceptance criteria.

A program consistent with the recommendations identified in the bulletin has been developed. This program will be formally implemented by Engineering Periodic Test procedure EPT-114, "Eddy Current Testing Requirements for the Incore Instrumentation Thimbles."

Thimble tube inspection using the criteria formulated during program development was conducted during the August 1988 Refueling Outage.

Corrective and preventive measures were implemented to maintain thimble tube integrity within the developed acceptance criteria. Five thimbles were repositioned based on detection of wall degradation (\leq 30%) near the lower core support plate. One

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thimble was replaced as a result of tube wall degradation beyond acceptance criteria (60%) and another was replaced since it was obstructed and could not be inspected.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. L. I. Loflin at (919) 836-6242.

Yours very truly,

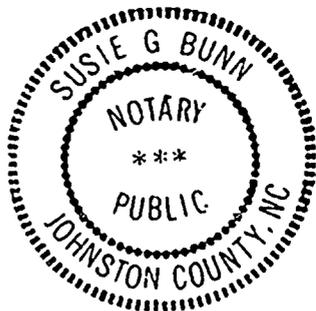


R. A. Watson
Vice President
Harris Nuclear Project

MAT:acm

cc: Messrs. W. H. Bradford
B. C. Buckley
M. L. Ernst

R. A. Watson, having been first duly sworn, did depose and say that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of his information, knowledge and belief; and the sources of his information are officers, employees, contractors, and agents of Carolina Power and Light Company.





Notary (Seal)