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SUBJECT: Informs of intention to extend first ten-yr interval end date for both Inservice Insp & Inservice Testing program from 970501 to 970901.

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NOTES: Application for permit renewal filed.      05000400

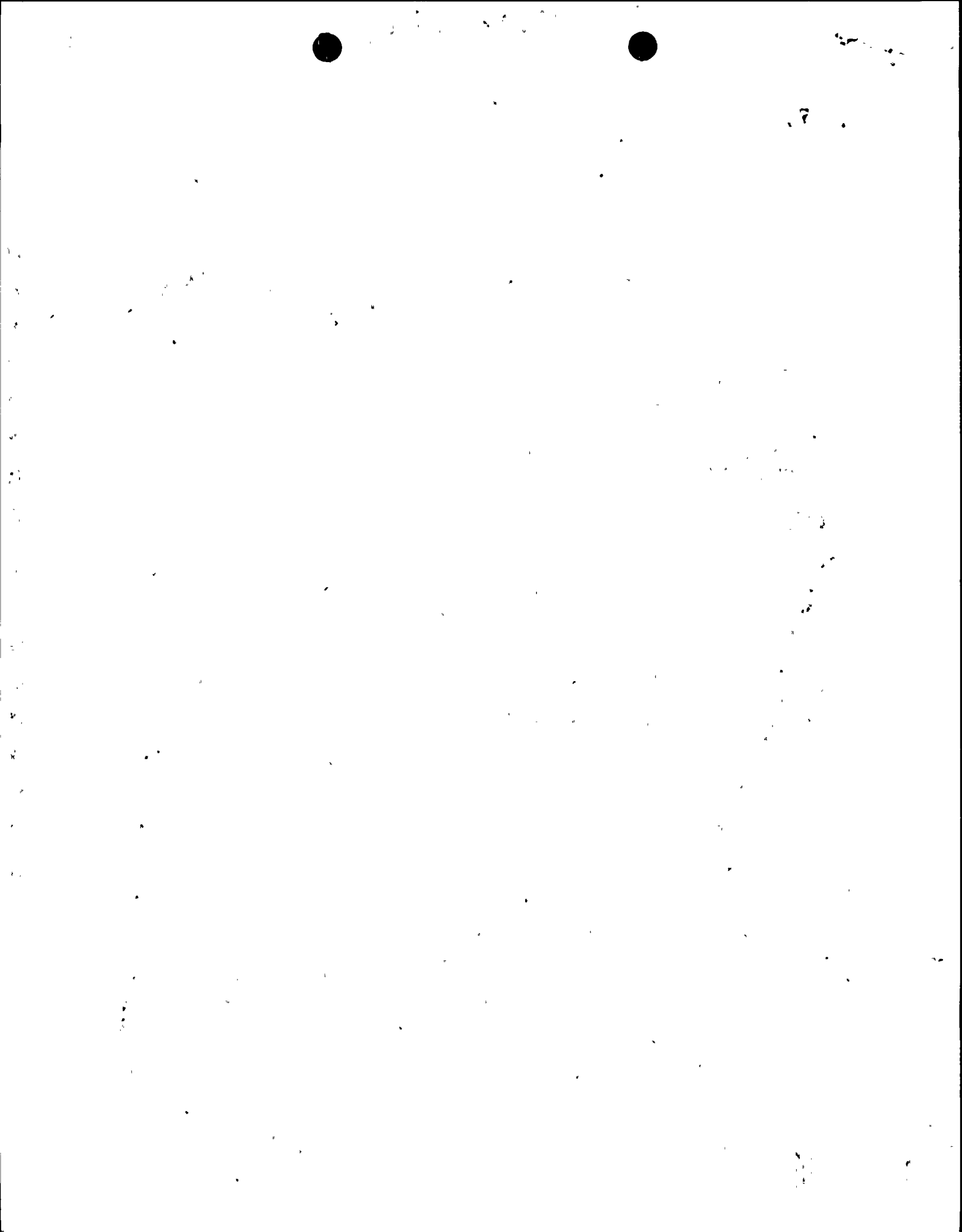
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APR 4 1997

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Harris Nuclear Plant

SERIAL: HNP-97-073  
10 CFR 50.55(a)

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTENTION: Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555

SHEARON HARRIS NUCLEAR POWER PLANT  
DOCKET NO. 50-400/LICENSE NO. NPF-63  
EXTENSION OF 1<sup>ST</sup> TEN-YEAR ISI/IST PROGRAM INTERVAL

Dear Sir or Madam:

The purpose of this letter is to inform the NRC that the Harris Nuclear Plant (HNP) intends to extend the 1<sup>st</sup> ten-year interval for both the Inservice Inspection (ISI) and Inservice Testing (IST) programs by four months by extending the current interval end date of May 1, 1997 to September 1, 1997. The reason and justification for this extension are discussed below.

HNP is currently implementing the 1<sup>st</sup> ten-year interval of the ISI and IST programs pursuant to the requirements of the 1983 edition of Section XI of the ASME Boiler & Pressure Vessel Code (including addenda through the Summer of 1983) and HNP Technical Specification 4.0.5. The Code of Federal Regulations, 10 CFR 50.55a, paragraphs (f)(4)(ii) and (g)(4)(ii), require an update to the ISI and IST programs every 120 months. The 1<sup>st</sup> ten-year interval of the ISI and IST programs at HNP is scheduled to end on May 1, 1997.

HNP refueling outage 7 (RFO-7) is scheduled to begin on April 5, 1997 and continue to May 15, 1997. Consequently, because the 1<sup>st</sup> ten-year interval ends during RFO-7, HNP would be required to implement a new edition of the ASME Code during the outage. This transition during RFO-7 would create undue hardship for completion of the 1<sup>st</sup> ten-year interval inspection and testing requirements.

The ASME Code is incorporated by reference in 10 CFR 50.55a. ASME Code Section XI, Subsection IWA-2400(c), states, *"Each Inspection Interval may be decreased or extended (but not cumulatively) by as much as 1 year. For power units that are out of service continuously for 6 months or more, the inspection interval during which the outage occurred may be extended for a period equivalent to the outage."*

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NUREG-1482, Guidelines for Inservice Testing at Nuclear Power Plants, Section 3.3.1, states that ASME Code Section XI, Subsection IWA applies to both IST and ISI programs. Additionally, NUREG-1482, Section 3.3.1 states *"Even though 10 CFR 50.55a does not discuss extending the intervals, the code is incorporated by reference in the regulation, and therefore, has the same effect as the regulation. Although the Code does not require NRC approval for 1-year extensions of the interval, the licensee would avoid any discrepancies in the interval dates by informing the NRC of the extension and documenting it in the IST program."*

In summation, HNP is extending the 1<sup>st</sup> ten-year interval for both the ISI and IST programs by four months by extending the current interval end date of May 1, 1997 to September 1, 1997. HNP will update the appropriate program plans and plant procedures to reflect the new 1<sup>st</sup> ten-year interval end date.

Please refer any questions regarding this subject to Ms. D. B. Alexander at (919) 362-3190.

Sincerely,



W. R. Robinson

KWS/kws

Enclosure

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