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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

JUN 1 3 1979

Docket No. 50-395

Mr. E. H. Crews, Jr. Vice President and Group Executive Engineering and Construction South Carolina Electric and Gas Company P. O. Box 764 Columbia, South Carolina 29218

Dear Mr. Crews:

SUBJECT: INSTRUMENT OUALIF: TION (Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Plant, Unit 1)

As discussed below, we recently completed our review of a Westinghouse Electric Corporation report entitled, "Qualification and Testing of Barton Pressure and Differential Pressure Transmitters" (Proprietary). This report was submitted to us by a letter dated September 29, 1978. The Summer Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) identif the instruments described in that Westinghouse report as being components of subcty related systems in the Summer plant. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the results of our review of the qualification of Barton pressure and differential pressure transmitters and the actions we now require of operating license applicants.

In summary, our review concluded that the tests described in the Westinghouse report provided additional assurance that the transmitters would initiate shortterm protective actions within acceptable instrument accuracies. However, the tests do not provide an acceptable basis to support the use of these transmitters to provide information required for operator actions during long term postaccident cooling. In our evaluation, we requested that Westinghouse provide additional justification to demonstrate that these transmitters meet all of their performance specification requirements. In the interim, we are questing that applicants for an operating license describe (1) alternate qualined instruments and/or procedures for menually controlling reactor conditions during long term postaccident cooling, and (2) the bases for acceptability of the measured error in the Barton 763 narrow range pressure transmitter for initiating short term protection system actions.

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Mr. E. H. Crews, Jr.

We have requested that Westinghouse provide us with a schedule for the submittal of additional information. This schedule has not yet been received. If the schedule for submittal of the additional information or our review schedule does not support resolution of this matter prior to the projected fuel load date for the Summer plant, you will be requested to submit the information required by our interim position.

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Sincerely,

Robert Z. Bain

Robert L. Baer, Chief Light Water Reactors Branch No. 2 Division of Project Management

ccs: See next page

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