

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONDOCKET NO. 50-348ALABAMA POWER COMPANYNOTICE OF GRANTING OF INTERIM RELIEF FROM ASME SECTION XI
INSERVICE TESTING REQUIREMENTS

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has granted relief from certain requirements of the ASME Code, Section XI, "Rules for Inservice Inspection of Nuclear Power Plant Components" to the Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant, Unit No. 1 (the facility) located in Houston County, Alabama. The relief relates to the inservice testing program for the facility. The ASME Code requirements are incorporated by reference into the Commission's rules and regulations in 10 CFR Part 50. The interim relief is effective as of its date of issuance.

The relief is granted on an interim basis, pending completion of our detailed review from those inservice testing requirements of the ASME Code that the licensee has determined to be impractical within the limitations of design, geometry and materials of construction of components, because compliance would result in hardships or unusual difficulties without a compensating increase in the level of quality or safety.

The request for relief complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations. The Commission has made appropriate findings as required by the Act and the Commission's rules and regulations in 10 CFR Chapter I, which are set forth in the letter granting relief. Prior public notice of this action was not required since the granting of this relief from ASME Code requirements does not involve a significant hazards consideration.

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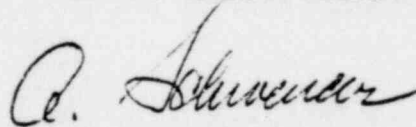
The Commission has determined that the granting of this relief will not result in any significant environmental impact and that pursuant to 10 CFR §51.5(d)(4) an environmental impact statement or negative declaration and environmental impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with this action.

For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the request for relief dated May 1, 1979, and (2) the Commission's letter to the licensee dated November 16, 1979.

These items are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. and at the George S. Houston Memorial Library, 212 W. Berdeshaw Street Dothan, Alabama 36303. A copy of item (2) may be obtained upon request addressed to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, Attention: Director, Division of Operating Reactors.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland this 16th day of November, 1979.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



A. Schwencer, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #1
Division of Operating Reactors