

F. L. CLAYTON, JR.
Senior Vice President



May 16, 1980

Docket No. 50-364

Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Attn: Mr. A. Schwencer

Gentlemen:

JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR PLANT - UNIT 2
CONSTRUCTION PERMIT EXTENSION REQUEST

On January 11, 1978, Alabama Power Company applied for, pursuant to Section 50.55 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, an extension in the latest date reflected in Construction Permit CPPR-86 for completion of construction of the Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant Unit 2. That application sought extension of the latest date to July 1, 1980. For the reasons set forth below, Alabama Power Company amends its pending application to request that the latest date for construction completion of Farley Unit 2 in CPPR-86 be extended to December 31, 1980.

The January 11, 1978 application provided the basis for our request that the latest construction completion date be extended to July 1, 1980. It now appears that construction of Farley Unit 2 will not be complete by that date, due principally to two unrelated developments in 1979, both which were beyond the control of the Company.

First, during the period January through August, 1979, Alabama Power Company was forced to cut back its construction force on Unit 2. The need for this cutback was caused by a deterioration of Company earnings to the point that the Company was unable to secure additional short-term loans to complete construction. This situation was recognized by the Securities and Exchange Commission and has been discussed with the NRC staff at length. After lengthy proceedings before the Alabama Public Service Commission, a portion of the rate relief requested was granted in July, 1979. This in turn allowed the Company to obtain additional loans that were necessary to reactivate the full construction force. An increase in the construction force on Unit 2 was then initiated in August, 1979. The construction force is now at full strength.

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Second, additional requirements have been placed on the Company, by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which have contributed to delays in completion of construction. These items relate primarily to modifications required to existing equipment and addition of new equipment, for example, resulting from the NRC's Fire Protection Reevaluation Program.

For the reasons stated above, our schedule for initial fuel load of Unit 2 is September 1, 1980; although, due to potential delays due to unforeseen reasons, the actual date may be somewhat later. We believe the extended latest completion date for Farley Unit 2 of December 31, 1980 to be realistic and therefore request that the extension requested be approved.

In accordance with the requirements of 10CFR50.30(c)(1)(i), we enclose three (3) signed originals and fifteen (15) copies of this request.

Sincerely yours,

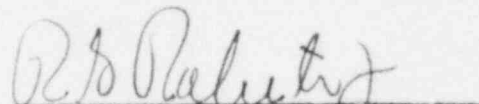

F. L. Clayton, Jr.

FLCJr/TNE:bhj

Enclosures

cc: Mr. R. A. Thomas
Mr. G. F. Trowbridge

Sworn to and subscribed before
me this 16 day of May, 1980.


Notary Public, Alabama State
at Large

My Commission Expires: 5-20-80