

December 14, 1989

Docket No. 50-395

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Mr. O. S. Bradham
Vice President, Nuclear Operations
South Carolina Electric & Gas Company
Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station
Post Office Box 88 (Mail Code 601)
Jenkinsville, South Carolina 29065

Dear Mr. Bradham:

SUBJECT: RELIEF REQUEST - ASME CODE SECTION XI REQUIREMENTS
VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1 (TAC NO. 74559)

By letter dated August 11, 1989, South Carolina Electric & Gas Company (SCE&G) requested relief from hydrostatic test requirements of ASME Code Section XI for the hydrostatic pressure testing of the main steam header moisture collector drain valves XVT-02877B, XVT-02843A, and XVT-02843C. In lieu of the required hydrostatic test, SCE&G proposed nondestructive examination consisting of magnetic particle testing (MT) and visual examination of the weld and an inservice leak test at nominal operating pressure. The weld will be hydrostatically tested at the end of the 10 year interval scheduled to be completed no later than December 31, 1994.

We have determined that relief from the hydrostatic test required by Section XI is justified. The alternative examinations and test proposed by SCE&G, in lieu of the hydrostatic test requirement, will provide assurance of the structural integrity of the weld. Relief is granted pursuant to paragraph 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(5) and (6) based on our finding that: (1) certain specific requirements of Section XI of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, 1977 Edition, through 1978 Addenda, are impractical and (2) such relief is authorized by law, will not endanger life or property, or the common defense and security and is otherwise in the public interest giving due consideration to the burden upon the licensee if such relief were not granted. In addition, ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code Case N-416, which addresses a situation similar to that covered in the above request was approved for implementation by the NRC and listed in Regulatory Guide 1.147. Our Safety Evaluation is enclosed.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Elinor G. Adensam, Director
Project Directorate II-1
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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P PDC

Enclosure:
As stated
cc w/enclosure:
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NAME	: PAnderson	: JHayes:sw	: CYCheng	: OGC	: EAdensam	:	:
DATE	: 11/2/89	: 11/20/89	: 11/7/89	: 12/7/89	: 12/14/89	:	:

Mr. O. S. Bradham
South Carolina Electric & Gas Company

Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station

cc:

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