



December 14, 1990

@CAN129005

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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SUBJECT: Arkansas Nuclear One - Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. 50-313 and 50-368
License Nos. DPR-51 and NPF-6
Request for Schedule Extension For Response to NRC
Safety Evaluation Report On the Station Blackout Rule
(TAC Nos. 68508 and 68509)

Gentlemen:

The Safety Evaluation Report (SER) for the Arkansas Nuclear One, Units 1 and 2 (ANO-1 and 2) - Responses to the Station Blackout (SBO) Rule was transmitted to ANO by letter dated October 10, 1990 (@CNA109006). The SER concluded that ANO-1 and 2, with the proposed Alternate AC (AAC) Crosstie method, did not conform with the SBO Rule and the guidance provided in Regulatory Guide 1.155, NUMARC 87-00 and the supplement to NUMARC 87-00. A revised response to the SBO Rule which addresses the areas of nonconformance identified in the SER was requested to be submitted within 60 days.

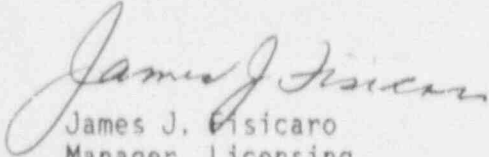
The ANO-1 and 2 responses to the SBO Rule were based upon our understanding of the regulatory requirements utilizing guidance documents developed by NUMARC through communications with the NRC. In April 1990, the NRC issued further guidance on the Staff's position to NUMARC on AAC Crosstie loading. This correspondence and our discussions with NUMARC led us to believe that the NRC was considering these issues on a plant specific basis. In letter @CAN099008 (September 24, 1990), Entergy Operations presented additional details concerning the proposed loading of the emergency diesel generators based on what we believed to be an acceptable response for the AAC approach.

The Staff's position on AAC Crosstie loading for ANO was clarified in the SER. The NRC position is significantly different from our position and requires us to modify our position bases. As a result, we now find it necessary to reconsider the approach described in our original submittal. Due to the significant nature of this potential change in course and to the resource limitations involved in completing the ninth refueling outage (1R9) for ANO-1 and preparing for the ANO-2 eighth refueling outage (2R8) to begin on February 22, 1991, additional time is required to respond to the SER. We request an extension until April 15, 1991, to submit the revised response. This request has been discussed with the ANO-1 NRR Project Manager.

AD01

Should you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact me.

Very truly yours,



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JJF/RWC/sgw

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