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July 27, 1984

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
DOCKETING & SERVICE
BRANCH

In the Matter of)	
)	
CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY)	Docket No. 50-400 OL
and NORTH CAROLINA EASTERN)	
MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY)	
)	
(Shearon Harris Nuclear Power)	
Plant))	

APPLICANTS' MOTION FOR ISSUANCE OF
AN ORDER ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES
FOR REQUESTING EXTENSIONS OF TIME

Applicants move the Board for the issuance of an order establishing the following procedure for requests to the Board for extension of deadlines established by the Board:

(1) Requests for extension of time should be in the form of a written motion unless the motion cannot be filed sufficiently in advance of the subject deadline for the Board to rule before the deadline passes.

(2) Oral requests for extension of time should only be made when there is not sufficient time for a written motion to be filed and acted upon by the Board.

(3) Prior to a written or oral request for extension of time, the requesting party should consult with the obviously affected parties in an effort to obtain their consent. The requesting party should then report to

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the Board, in the written or oral request, the communications made with other parties and their positions on the extension request.

(4) The Board will entertain a request for extension of time without compliance with step (3) above only in extreme circumstances and upon a showing by the requesting party of good cause for failure to communicate with other affected parties.

(5) Where the extension request is oral, the requesting party has the affirmative obligation to communicate promptly to other affected parties any Board ruling granting an extension.

This motion is made necessary by several instances where intervenors have made requests by telephone for extensions of time without consulting with Applicants in advance or communicating the approved extension after the conversation with the Board. Applicants, where this has occurred, do not learn of the extension until they receive the intervenor's pleading and read that an extension was sought and granted. We assume the Board is not aware of this situation.

Beyond the fact that ex parte motions deprive the other parties of an opportunity to be heard in opposition or to suggest additional schedule adjustments as a condition of granting the request, the failure to communicate the approved extension is disruptive to Applicants' hearing preparation plans.

The most recent example of this scenario is Joint Interveners' Findings of Fact on Joint Contentions II(e) and II(c).^{1/} Pursuant to the schedule established by the Board at the environmental hearing, parties were to file proposed findings and reply findings on a simultaneous basis on July 20 and August 1, 1984, with any final reply by Applicants on August 6, 1984. Today, Friday, July 27, Applicants received Joint Interveners' proposed findings dated July 24. Joint Interveners state that "[b]y telephone, Chairman Kelley granted an extension on the filing of these findings until July 24, 1984." Applicants were not aware that this extension request had been made or granted.

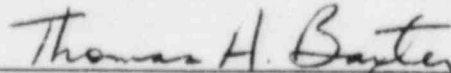
Several problems are caused by this situation. First, Applicants had assumed, since the time had passed, that Joint Interveners were not filing proposed findings and that Applicants' attorneys could turn to work other than preparing a reply to that pleading. Second, the simultaneity concept was breached unilaterally and Joint Interveners may have had the unfair advantage of reviewing Applicants' and Staff's proposed findings, filed July 20, before filing their own. Third, since no adjustment was made to the schedule for replies, Applicants must now undertake the burden of seeking an

^{1/} The situation has arisen previously with discovery deadlines and during the filing of intervenors' proposed contentions on off-site emergency preparedness.

extension made necessary only by the delay in Joint Intervenors' filing.^{2/}

None of these problems would have arisen if Joint Intervenors had contacted Applicants in advance. We could have considered a delay in our proposed findings to preserve simultaneity, adjusted the reply schedule at the same time, and managed our workloads accordingly. Applicants do not desire to impose rigid or unnecessary formalities onto the proceeding, but the problems discussed above are real and could readily be avoided.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas A. Baxter, P.C.
SHAW, PITTMAN, POTTS & TROWBRIDGE
1800 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 822-1000

Richard E. Jones
Samantha Francis Flynn
CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
P.O. Box 1551
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602
(919) 836-6517

Counsel for Applicants

Dated: July 27, 1984

^{2/} Since the deadline for replies is Wednesday, August 1, Applicants' counsel must seek the extension on an emergency basis. We learned today that Staff counsel has not yet received Joint Intervenors' proposed findings and was also unaware of the extension.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of)	
)	
CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY)	Docket Nos. 50-440 ^o OL
and NORTH CAROLINA EASTERN)	50-401 OL
MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY)	
)	
(Shearon Harris Nuclear Power)	
Plant, Units 1 and 2))	

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of "Applicants' Motion for Issuance of an Order Establishing Procedures for Requesting Extensions of Time" were served this 27th day of July, 1984, by deposit in the U.S. Mail, first class, postage prepaid, to the parties on the attached Service List.



Thomas A. Baxter

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of)
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CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY) Docket Nos. 50-400 CL
and NORTH CAROLINA EASTERN) 50-401 OL
MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY)
)
(Shearon Harris Nuclear Power)
Plant, Units 1 and 2))

SERVICE LIST

James L. Kelley, Esquire
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Mr. Glenn O. Bright
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dr. James H. Carpenter
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Charles A. Barth, Esquire
Janice E. Moore, Esquire
Office of Executive Legal Director
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Docketing and Service Section
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Mr. Daniel F. Read, President
CHANGE
P.O. Box 2151
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602

John D. Runkle, Esquire
Conservation Council of
North Carolina
307 Granville Road
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514

M. Travis Payne, Esquire
Edelstein and Payne
P.O. Box 12607
Raleigh, North Carolina 27605

Dr. Richard D. Wilson
729 Hunter Street
Apex, North Carolina 27502

Mr. Wells Eddleman
718-A Iredell Street
Durham, North Carolina 27705

Richard E. Jones, Esquire
Vice President and Senior Counsel
Carolina Power & Light Company
P.O. Box 1551
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602

Dr. Linda W. Little
Governor's Waste Management Board
513 Albemarle Building
325 North Salisbury Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611

Bradley W. Jones, Esquire
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marrietta Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Steven F. Crockett, Esquire
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Mr. Robert P. Gruber
Executive Director
Public Staff - NCUC
P.O. Box 991
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602

Administrative Judge Harry Foreman
Box 395 Mayo
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455