



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

March 4, 1992

Docket No. 50-364

Mr. W. G. Hairston, III  
Senior Vice President  
Southern Nuclear Operating  
Company, Inc.  
Post Office Box 1295  
Birmingham, Alabama 35201-1295

Dear Mr. Hairston:

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO USE ASME CODE CASE N-498 AT  
JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT 2 (TAC NO. M82836)

By letter dated February 24, 1992, you requested approval for the implementation of the alternative rules of Section XI of the ASME Code Case N-498, entitled "Alternative Rules for 10-Year Hydrostatic Pressure Testing for Class 1 and 2 Systems, Section XI, Division 1." Approval was requested to apply the Code Case to Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant, Unit 2, during the outage scheduled to begin on March 6, 1992.

ASME Code Case N-498 has been reviewed and found acceptable by the staff and will be included in the next revision of Regulatory Guide 1.147. If these alternate rules cannot be applied to a Class 1 or 2 system or component, the normal rules for the 10-year hydrostatic test must be followed. The staff has determined that the granting of this relief is authorized by law and 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 that could result if the requirements were imposed on the facility. Accordingly, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55(a)(3)(i), the relief is granted based on the finding that the use of Code Case N-498 provides an acceptable level of quality and safety.

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Your February 24, 1992, letter also discussed the steam generator 2C upper transition cone-to-shell weld indication found during the Unit 2 seventh refueling outage. As indicated by your letter, the steam generator 2C system leakage test should be performed at a minimum temperature of 100°F.

Sincerely,

*151*

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

Regulation

cc: See next page

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\*See previous concurrence

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Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant

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