



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

March 13, 1992

Docket Nos. 50-348
and 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: JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 - SECOND TEN-YEAR
INTERVAL INSERVICE INSPECTION RELIEF REQUESTS (TAC NOS M82253 AND
M82254)

By separate letters dated December 2, 1991, based on your review of the NRC's Safety Evaluation (SE), dated August 28, 1991, on the Second Ten-Year Inservice Inspection Program for the Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2, you revised relief requests RR-29 and RR-33, and withdrew relief request RR-4. You indicated that for certain examinations the requirements in Section XI of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Code (the Code) were impractical to perform at Farley.

With respect to relief request RR-29, the staff has determined that the alternative requirements given in Code Case N-498 provided adequate assurance of the structural integrity of the subject piping systems. The staff, therefore, concludes, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i), that the proposed alternative requirements to those of Section XI will provide an acceptable level of quality and safety and the proposed alternative may be used.

The staff has determined that the alternative examination proposed by licensee in relief request RR-33 will provide adequate assurance of the structural integrity of the subject piping systems. Therefore, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(i), the staff concludes that the Code-required examinations are impractical to perform and the licensee's proposal to perform visual examination VT-2 while the system is in service under operating pressure as an alternative to the applicable ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code requirement may be granted as requested.

As discussed in the enclosed SE, the staff finds that imposition of the examination requirements would cause a burden that would not be compensated significantly by an increase in safety. The staff has concluded that the alternative examinations are acceptable or that relief may be granted from the Code requirements that are impractical to perform. Further, the granting of these reliefs will not significantly reduce the assurance of the plant's structural integrity and safety. Such relief is authorized by law, will not endanger the life or property or the common defense and security and is

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otherwise in the public interest. These reliefs are granted giving due consideration to the burden upon the licensee that could result if the requirements were imposed on the facility.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

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

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

*See previous concurrence

OFC	L:PDII-1	M:PDII-1	D:PDII-1	OGC*
NAME	PAnderson	B Mozafari	E Adensam	JHull
DATE	3/10/92	3/11/92	3/13/92	3/13/92

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