

SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY

POST OFFICE 764

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29218

August 17, 1984

O. W. DIXON, JR.  
VICE PRESIDENT  
NUCLEAR OPERATIONS

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station  
Docket No. 50/395  
Operating License No. NPF-12  
Spent Fuel Pool Rerack Modification

Dear Mr. Denton:

On January 23, 1984, South Carolina Electric and Gas Company (SCE&G) filed a request with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) seeking approval for proposed rerack modifications to the spent fuel pool at the Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station. The purpose of this letter is to restate and clarify the Company's present fuel storage capabilities utilizing the new high density racks.

SCE&G's proposed modification includes the employment of storage racks designed to be capable of accommodating spent fuel with a higher initial enrichment and thus the potential for higher burnups expected to be common in the future. These capabilities were considered to be desirable qualities in spent fuel storage rack designs because they provide SCE&G the ability to achieve more economical fuel consumption in future operations of the plant while still having the ability to store spent fuel onsite.

The Company is aware that current industry standards accepted by the NRC limit fuel burnups to a region average discharge of 38,000 MWD/MTU for Westinghouse 17 x 17 fuel. It is not SCE&G's intent to operate outside of these bounds without further expressed written approval from the NRC. As stated in the Company's April 4, 1984 letter to the Staff, region average discharges of greater than 38,000 MWD/MTU are not anticipated at least through the end of this decade.

If you have any further questions, please advise.

Very truly yours,

  
O. W. Dixon, Jr.

AMM/OWD/gj

cc: (see page #2)

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Spent Fuel Rerack Modification  
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