

August 4, 1992

Docket Nos. 50-348
and 50-364

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

Dear Mr. Hairston:

SUBJECT: CORRECTION OF JULY 10, 1992, LETTER REQUESTING ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION CONCERNING THE STEAM GENERATOR ALTERNATE PLUGGING
CRITERIA AMENDMENTS FOR JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR PLANT,
UNITS 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS. M79819 AND M79819)

On July 10, 1992, the NRC sent you a letter requesting additional information regarding your steam generator alternate plugging criteria amendment request dated February 26, 1991, as supplemented by letters dated November 13, 1991, February 21, 1992, April 10, 1992, June 4, 1992, and June 16, 1992. The request for additional information contained editorial errors. Specifically, in Enclosures 1 and 2 to the NRC letter, there were errors in the references contained in Item 16. Also, in the proprietary version, a note appears right after Item 20 that should have been deleted. Enclosures 1 and 2 to this letter are the corrected proprietary and non-proprietary versions of those pages.

We regret any inconvenience this may have caused. If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Hoffman, the Project Manager at (301) 504-1463.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Stephen T. Hoffman, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-1
Division of Reactor Projects
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures: As stated

cc w/Enclosure 2:
See next page

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Mr. W. G. Hairston, III
Southern Nuclear Operating
Company, Inc.

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant

cc:

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cc w/enclosures 1 and 2:
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propose and justify appropriate dent voltage threshold criteria for inclusion into the guidelines of Appendix A of WCAP-12871. RPC inspection would be performed and beyond which the APC voltage would not apply.

14. WCAP-12871, Appendix A, states that the APC will not apply to intersections exhibiting copper interference, but that this is not expected to be a concern at Farley. The licensee is requested to propose and justify, for inclusion into the guidelines in Appendix A of WCAP-12871, the threshold at which copper interference is considered to exist, and what inspections should be performed for OD SCC in cases of copper interference above this threshold.
15. Interference (artifact) signals can also arise from magnetite, material property variations, and how well the support plate signal can be eliminated from the 400/100 kHz mix. These artifact signals are expected typically to be very small, but if large, these artifact signals could affect flaw detection and voltage measurement. For completeness, therefore, the licensee is requested to propose and justify, for inclusion into the guidelines in Appendix A of WCAP-12871, an appropriate artifact signal threshold beyond which RPC inspections would be performed and the APC voltage plugging limit would not apply.
16. The proposed Technical Specification amendments for APC call for an RPC inspection at all support plate intersections exhibiting bobbin coil indications in excess of 1.5 volt signal amplitude. As noted in Item 1 above, these inspections are intended to confirm that the indications are consistent with the OD SCC occurring within the thickness of the support plate. The staff requests that the proposed Technical Specification amendments be revised to include an additional RPC sample of 200 intersections (i.e., intersections exhibiting bobbin indications less than or equal to 1.5 volts, including intersections with no indications). This 200 intersection sample should include a random sample, but should also include intersections with relatively large amplitude dents and artifact indications ranging to the threshold values referred to in Items 13 and 15 above. (Intersections with dents and artifact indications exceeding the threshold values would already be subject to RPC inspections per Items 13 and 15 above.)
17. The staff notes that the 3-coil RPC probe design (including a coil oriented to detect axial cracks, a coil oriented to detect circumferential cracks, and a normal pancake coil) appears to do the best job of distinguishing between axial, circumferential, and volumetric flaws. The licensee is requested to describe the kind of RPC probe it plans to utilize and to discuss its suitability for this application.
18. The RPC standard specified in the WCAP-12871, Appendix A, guidelines will permit the RPC probe to be set up to mix out the support plate signal. Use of the mixed RPC signals can be helpful in performing flaw characterizations, and thus, the staff requests that Section A.3.6 of the guidelines be revised to require the analysts to look at the mixed RPC signals.