



April 10, 1992

1CAN049205

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
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Subject: Arkansas Nuclear One - Unit 1  
Docket No. 50-313  
License No. DPR-51  
Withdrawal of Request for Approval  
to Use Alternative to Requirements  
of 10CFR50.55a, "Codes and Standards"

Gentlemen:

As described in letter dated March 13, 1992 (1CAN039204), Entergy Operations planned to repair, as a preventative measure, thirty-seven existing Babcock & Wilcox (B&W) explosively expanded steam generator tube plugs at Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1 (ANO-1) during the current refueling outage (R10). The preferred repair method is to install a welded plug utilizing an automatic welding process. The welded plug and the process were analyzed and qualified to the 1989 Edition of the ASME Code, Section III, Division 1 and Section XI. Based on this, Entergy Operations requested approval of this Edition of the Code for use with this process.

Subsequent to that submittal, Entergy Operations decided to defer this repair. The basis for the decision to not perform the repair is that the particular B&W explosively expanded plug in question at ANO-1 (MK-3's and MK-4's) is different in design than those B&W plugs (MK-1's and MK-2's) used at other facilities where eddy current testing has revealed indications in the plugs. Because of the different design, smaller explosive charges were used at ANO-1, therefore producing lower residual stress in the plug.

Therefore, Entergy Operations is withdrawing the request for approval of the 1989 Edition of the Code for use with the automatic welding process. The withdrawal of this request has been discussed with the ANO NRR Project Manager.

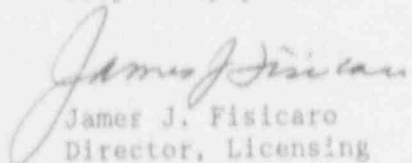
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If you have any questions, or require additional information, with regards to this submittal, please contact my office.

Very truly yours,

  
James J. Fisicaro  
Director, Licensing

JJF/RWC/sjf

cc: Mr. Robert Martin  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region IV  
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400  
Arlington, TX 76011-8064

NRC Senior Resident Inspector  
Arkansas Nuclear One - ANO-1 & 2  
Number 1, Nuclear Plant Road  
Russellville, AR 72801

Mr. Thomas W. Alexion  
NRR Project Manager, Region IV/ANO-1  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
NRR Mail Stop 13-H-3  
One White Flint North  
11555 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, Maryland 20852

Ms. Sheri Peterson  
NRR Project Manager, Region IV/ANO-2  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
NRR Mail Stop 13-H-3  
One White Flint North  
11555 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, Maryland 20852