



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV  
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400  
ARLINGTON TEXAS 76011-8064

JUL 10 1992

Docket Nos. 50-313  
50-368  
License Nos. DPR-51  
NPF-6

Entergy Operations, Inc  
ATTN: Neil S. Carns, Vice President  
Operations, Arkansas Nuclear One  
Route 3, Box 137G  
Russellville, Arkansas 72801

Gentlemen:

This acknowledges the granting of a temporary waiver of compliance to Arkansas Nuclear One, Unit 1 (ANO-1), from the provision of Technical Specification (TS) Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) Section 3.1.6.9. Your letter (ICAN079202) to this office, dated July 9, 1992, provides the written basis for the temporary waiver of compliance that you verbally requested on July 8, 1992.

At 2:05 a.m. (CDT) on July 8, 1992, ANO-1 entered TS LCO 3.1.6.9, following your determination that a reactor coolant system pressure isolation check valve (DH-17) inside the reactor building and part of the low pressure injection (LPI) system had back leakage in excess of TS limits. This LCO action required that the back leakage be corrected or the associated reactor building outboard isolation motor-operated valve (CV-1401) be shut and de-energized within 4 hours. In completing this action, which permitted ANO-1 to exit TS LCO 3.1.6.9, Train A of LPI was rendered inoperable which required entry into TS LCO 3.3.6. The action of TS LCO 3.3.6 requires the inoperable train of the LPI system to be restored to service, or reactor shutdown shall be initiated and the reactor shall be in hot shutdown condition within 36 hours.

Discussions between ANO, Region IV staff, and members of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) were conducted during the afternoon and evening of July 8, 1992. During these exchanges, work strategies, compensatory measures, and risk assessment plans were discussed. In conjunction with these discussions, the ANO plant safety committee (PSC) met, reviewed, and approved the work plan and request for the waiver of compliance. In a conference call held at 10:15 p.m., on July 8, 1992, between ANO, Region IV staff, and NRR; ANO formally requested a temporary waiver of compliance to TS 3.1.6.9 in order to permit the opening of reactor building outboard isolation motor-operated valve (CV-1401). This action was necessary to reduce the pressure upstream of Check Valve DH-17, which would provide the required differential pressure to seat Check Valve DH-17 and terminate the back leakage.

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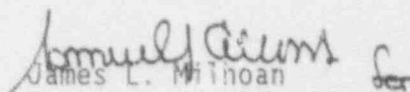
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A temporary waiver of compliance to TS LCO 3.1.6.9 was subsequently granted at 10:40 p.m., on July 8, 1992, by Region IV, with the concurrence of NRR, to allow ANO to slightly open CV-1401 and bleed of the back pressure on DH-17. The period of the waiver of compliance was 4 hours, to commence from the time that Valve CV-1401 was energized.

The waiver of compliance was verbally approved by Region IV based on the compensatory measures taken by the licensee's operations staff in the crew preparation, supervision, and control during the actual evolution; engineering evaluations of the safety significance of possible overpressurization of low pressure piping; low probability of system valve failure; satisfactory maintenance and surveillance history of Valve CV-1401, Valve DH-14 and other LPI valves; and the PSC's review and approval of the work plan and waiver request. We note that following the verbal waiver request being approved, ANO entered TS LCO 3.1.6.9 at 12:45 a.m., on July 9, 1992, slightly opened Valve CV-1401, successfully seated Valve DH-17, and exited the TS LCO at 12:57 a.m., on July 9, 1992. In addition, we acknowledge that, following the completion of administrative requirements, TS LCO 3.3.6 was exited at approximately 6:30 a.m., on July 9, 1992.

If your understanding of this matter differs from that expressed above, or if you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me.

Sincerely,

  
James L. Mitroan  
Regional Administrator

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Entergy Operations, Inc.

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