



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

September 17, 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: RELIEF REQUESTS FOR THE INSERVICE TESTING PROGRAM FOR PUMPS AND VALVES AT THE JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS. M81197, M81198, M82251, AND M82252)

This letter provides the results of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's review of the information provided by your letters dated July 26, 1991, July 29, 1991, December 3, 1991, December 30, 1991 (2 letters), and April 10, 1992 (2 letters), concerning the relief requests for Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant (Farley), Units 1 and 2, inservice testing (IST) program for pumps and valves. Your submittals included responses to the IST program action items that were identified in the staff's Safety Evaluation (SE) issued by letter dated May 23, 1991, and to the staff's request for additional information contained in a letter dated February 14, 1992. The February 14, 1992, letter also granted interim relief for certain relief requests until the date of issuance of the enclosed SE.

Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 50.55a, requires that inservice testing of certain American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code Class 1, 2, and 3 pumps and valves be performed in accordance with Section XI of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code and applicable addenda, except where specific written relief has been requested by the licensee and granted by the NRC pursuant to Sections (a)(3)(i), (a)(3)(ii), or (g)(6)(i) of 10 CFR 50.55a. Guidance on acceptable alternatives to Section XI requirements for certain aspects of IST was provided by the NRC in Generic Letter (GL) 89-04, "Guidance on Developing Acceptable Inservice Testing Programs."

The NRC staff with technical assistance from Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) has reviewed your requests for relief concerning the Farley, Units 1 and 2, IST programs. The staff adopts the evaluations and conclusions contained in BNL's Technical Evaluation Report (TER), "Pump and Valve Inservice Testing Program, Farley Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2, Southern Nuclear Operating Company." The enclosed SE incorporates the TER which is an attachment to the SE.

9209240360 920917
PDR ADDCK 05000348
P PDR

NRC FILE CENTER COPY

The staff is granting relief from certain testing requirements, which we have determined would be impractical to perform, where compliance would result in a hardship without a compensating increase in safety, or where the proposed alternative testing provides an acceptable level of quality and safety. A summary of the staff's actions is provided in Table 1 of the SE. For relief requests that have been denied, your testing should comply with the applicable Section XI requirements and GL 89-04 guidelines within 3 months of the date of this letter. Regarding the relief requests that have been denied, any additional information supporting the relief requested should be submitted in a revised relief request within 3 months of the date of this letter.

Except for the denied relief requests, the IST program relief requests for Farley, Units 1 and 2, provided by the July 26, 1991, July 29, 1991, December 3, 1991, December 30, 1991, and April 10, 1992, submittals are acceptable for implementation provided (1) the action items identified in Section 5 of the TER are addressed within one year of the date of this letter and (2) the procedural or program changes covered in Section 5 of the TER are completed within one year of the date of this letter, by the end of the next refueling outage, or by the schedule specified in an individual action item, whichever is later. The granting of relief is based upon the fulfillment of any commitments made by you in your basis for each relief request and the alternatives proposed.

Program changes involving new or revised relief requests should not be implemented prior to approval by the NRC. New or revised relief requests that meet the positions in GL 89-04, Attachment 1, should be submitted to the NRC, but can be implemented provided the guidance in GL 89-04, Section D, is followed. Program changes that add or delete components from the IST program should also be provided to the NRC.

The staff reviews performed to support the enclosed SE and the SE issued by letter dated May 23, 1991, did not include verification that all pumps and valves within the scope of 10 CFR 50.55a and Section XI are contained in the IST program. Additionally, for the components included in the IST program, no determination was made to ensure all applicable testing requirements were identified. Therefore, you are requested to provide the NRC with a description of the process used in developing the IST program. The submittal should include, as a minimum, details of the documents used, the method of determining if a component requires inservice testing, the basis for the testing required, the basis for categorizing valves, and the method or process used for maintaining the program current with design modifications or other activities performed under 10 CFR 50.59. If a description of this process is not already available from existing documentation, the staff envisions that this request could be answered in 2 to 4 pages. It could be incorporated into the IST program in appropriate sections. This information should be provided within one year of the date of this letter.

September 17, 1992

Mr. W. S. Hairston, III

- 3 -

This letter completes the NRC staff's review of your IST submittals and TAC Numbers M81197, M81198, M82251, and M82252 are closed.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosure:
Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

DISTRIBUTION

Docket File

- NRC PDR
- Local PDR
- PD21-Rdg. File
- S. Varga 14-E-4
- G. Lainas 14-H-3
- E. Adensam
- P. Anderson
- S. Hoffman
- M. Webb
- OGC 15-B-18
- ACRS(10)
- J. Norberg 7-E-23
- K. Dempsey 7-E-23
- G. Maxwell RII

as revised on clipped page

OFC	PD21/LA	PD21/ST	NRR:EMEB	OGC	PD21/J
NAME	PAnderson	SHoffman	JNorberg	JHull	EAdensam
DATE	8/31/92	8/31/92	9/11/92	9/11/92	9/17/92

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY
Document Name: FAR81197.LTR

210014

JFol
111

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

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant

cc:

Mr. R. D. Hill, Jr.
General Manager - Farley Nuclear Plant
Southern Nuclear Operating
Company, Inc.
P.O. Box 470
Ashford, Alabama 36312

Claude Earl Fox, M. D.
State Health Officer
State Department of Public Health
State Office Building
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Mr. B. L. Moore
Manager, Licensing
Southern Nuclear Operating
Company, Inc.
P.O. Box 1295
Birmingham, Alabama 35201-1295

Chairman
Houston County Commission
P.O. Box 6406
Dothan, Alabama 36502

Regional Administrator, Region II
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
101 Marietta Street, Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

James H. Miller, III, Esq.
Balch and Bingham
P.O. Box 306
1710 Sixth Avenue North
Birmingham, Alabama 35201

Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
P.O. Box 24 - Route 2
Columbia, Alabama 36319