



Southern Nuclear Operating Company

the southern electric system

Dave Morey
Vice President
Farley Project

April 22, 1996

Docket No.: 50-364

10 CFR 50.90

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN.: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant - Unit 2
L* Tubesheet Region Plugging Criterion

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 50.90, Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) hereby proposes changes to the Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant (FNP) Unit 2 Technical Specifications concerning L* Tubesheet Region Plugging Criterion. FNP, Unit 2, currently operates with an F* tubesheet region plugging criterion. The F* criterion was approved in amendment 64 to the Unit 2 Technical Specifications in an NRC letter dated September 21, 1987. However, as eddy current technology evolves, more accurate methods are available to ensure the structural integrity of steam generator tubes. Consequently, an L* tubesheet plugging criterion has been developed.

L* allows a steam generator tube to remain in service with bands of axial degradation in the tube sheet region provided sufficient non-degraded tubing remains to satisfy regulatory guidance concerning structural and leakage integrity. This submittal is similar to a previously approved V. C. Summer nuclear plant submittal.

Approval of the amendment is requested by October 1, 1996, in order to allow use during the upcoming Unit 2 steam generator inspections. SNC has determined that the proposed license amendment will not significantly increase the amount of any effluent that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. SNC will implement the proposed license amendment within 30 days of NRC issuance.

Attachment 1 contains a Significant Hazards Consideration analysis. Attachment 2 provides page change instructions and revised TS and TS bases. The technical specification pages are based on approval of the alternate repair criteria for outside diameter stress corrosion cracking at tube support plate intersections. Attachment 3 provides corresponding marked-up existing TS and TS bases pages. Attachment 4 contains the technical basis for the L* criterion.

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Attachment 4, Development of L* Criteria for Farley Unit 2 (Westinghouse proprietary class 2) is provided, along with Westinghouse authorization letter NSD-NRC-96-4695. Since this attachment contains information proprietary to Westinghouse Electric Corporation, correspondence with respect to the copyright or proprietary aspects of the items listed above should reference NSD-NRC-96-4695 and should be addressed to Nicholas J. Liparulo, Manager of Nuclear Safety Regulatory & Licensing Activities, Westinghouse Electric Corporation, P. O. Box 355, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15230-0355.

A copy of these proposed changes is being sent to Dr. D. E. Williamson, the Alabama State Designee, in accordance with 10 CFR 50.91(b)(1).

If there are any questions, please advise.

Respectfully submitted,

SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY

Dave Morey
Dave Morey

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 22nd day of April, 1996.

Carol Louise Taylor
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: June 24, 1997

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Attachments:

1. Safety Assessment and Significant Hazards Evaluation
2. Page Change Instructions and Revised TS Pages
3. Marked Up TS and TS Bases Pages
4. Development of L* Criterion for Farley Unit 2

cc: Mr. S. D. Ebnetter, Region II Administrator
Mr. B. L. Siegel, NRR Senior Project Manager
Mr. T. M. Ross, FNP Sr. Resident Inspector
Dr. Donald E. Williamson, State Department of Public Health