

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
ALABAMA POWER COMPANY
DOCKET NOS. 50-348 AND 50-364
NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF
NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of certain reliefs from the requirements of ASME Code Section XI to Alabama Power Company (the licensees), for the Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2, located near the City of Dothan, Alabama.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action: The relief will permit the licensee to test the full stroke capability of one of the six accumulator check valves by disassembly of a different one of these valves on a rotating schedule each refueling outage to verify operational readiness. By letter dated January 26, 1984, the Commission previously granted relief from these requirements of Section XI until the end of the Unit 1 fifth refueling outage and the Unit 2 second refueling outage. A second relief will permit the licensee to test the full stroke capability of the check valve between the refueling water storage tank and containment spray pumps by disassembly during each refueling outage.

The operational readiness verification would be done in a manner different from that prescribed in Section XI of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, as required by 10 CFR 50.55a, because of required plant

modifications which the licensee states would be required to perform full stroke testing of the check valves.

The relief is responsive to the licensee's application for relief dated June 1, 1984, supplemented October 24, 1984.

The Need for the Proposed Action: The proposed relief is needed because the normally closed check valves cannot be operated (full stroke) during normal plant operation or during each cold shutdown.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action: The proposed relief will provide a degree of assurance of operability as discussed in our Safety Evaluation issued with the relief letter that is equivalent to that prescribed by the ASME Code. Consequently, the probability of the check valves not being operational or not operating properly will not be increased and post-accident radiological releases will not be greater than previously determined nor does the proposed relief otherwise affect radiological plant effluents. Based on the licensee's stated radiological impact of 3.5 man-rem in a July 5, 1983 letter, we conclude that this value is less than 0.3% of the annual occupational dose commitment to workers at Farley. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with this proposed relief.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed relief involves features located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that

there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed relief.

Alternative Use of Resources: This action involves no use of resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement (construction permit and operating license) for the Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2.

Agencies and Persons Consulted: The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

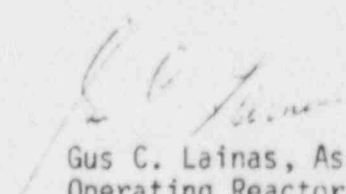
The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed relief.

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the applications for the relief dated June 1, 1984 and October 24, 1984, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and at the George S. Houston Memorial Library, 212 W. Burdeshaw Street, Dothan, Alabama 36301.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland this 2nd day of November, 1984.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION


Gus C. Lainas, Assistant Director
Operating Reactors
Division of Licensing