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Southern Nuclear Operating Company
the southern electric system

J. D. Woodard
Vice President
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October 13, 1992

Dockets Nos. 50-348
50-364

10 CFR 50.90

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

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant
Technical Specification Changes Associated
with Generic Letter 90-06
Power-Operated Relief Valve and Block Valve Reliability
and Low-Temperature Overpressure Protection

Gentlemen:

On June 25, 1990 the NRC issued Generic Letter (G.L.) 90-06, "Resolution of Generic Issue 70, 'Power-Operated Relief Valve and Block Valve Reliability,' and Generic Issue 94, 'Additional Low-Temperature Overpressure Protection for Light-Water Reactors'." In G.L. 90-06 the NRC delineated specific recommendations which address the concerns of Generic Issues 70 and 94. The NRC requested utilities pursuant to 10 CFR 50.54(f) to commit to: 1) take additional measures to increase the reliability of power-operated relief valves (PORVs) and PORV block valves, 2) modify the technical specification associated with the reactor coolant system (RCS) relief valves to ensure that safety-related functions performed by the PORVs are maintained, and 3) modify the RCS low-temperature overpressure protection (LTOP) system technical specification to account for the increased likelihood of an overpressure event during operating Modes 5 and 6 when the RCS is water-solid.

By letter dated December 14, 1990, Alabama Power Company provided their response to Item 1) listed above and indicated that they were evaluating the allowable outage time (AOT) for the modified technical specifications associated with LTOP and the PORVs suggested by G.L. 90-06. Accordingly, Alabama Power Company provided a proposed change to the LTOP technical specification in a letter dated May 13, 1991 which included a justification for an extended AOT beyond that suggested by the G.L. when the RCS is not water-solid.

On August 14, 1992, the NRC issued a letter to Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) which identified several remaining concerns related to G.L. 90-06 and requested a response by October 16, 1992. The NRC noted that SNC has yet to submit a modified PORV technical specification. This concern is resolved by the proposed technical specification changes attached to this letter.

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SNC has chosen to modify the technical specifications, consistent with the guidance of G.L. 90-06. Provided herein are the proposed changes for Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2 to improve the reliability of the PORVs and PORV block valves.

The proposed changes to the Farley Unit 1 and Unit 2 Technical Specifications are provided in Attachment 1 and supplements the information provided in Alabama Power Company's letters dated December 14, 1990 and May 13, 1991. This submittal completes the requirements necessary for Farley Nuclear Plant to comply with the intent of G.L. 90-06.

Attachment 2 of this submittal includes a safety analysis for the proposed changes to the technical specifications.

The supporting significant hazards evaluation pursuant to 10 CFR 50.92 is provided in Attachment 3. Based upon the analysis provided, Southern Nuclear Operating Company has determined that the proposed changes to the technical specifications do not involve a significant hazards consideration as defined by 10 CFR 50.92.

The supporting environmental evaluation is provided in Attachment 4. Based upon the evaluation provided, Southern Nuclear Operating Company has determined that pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9), the proposed license amendment meets the criteria for categorical exclusion and therefore, in accordance with 10 CFR 51.22(b), does not require preparation of an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement.

In addition, the NRC requested additional technical justification and clarification to support the May 13, 1991 proposed LTOP technical specification change. The requested safety analysis and proposed revised technical specification pages are provided as Attachments 5 and 6, respectively. SNC has reviewed the significant hazards evaluation provided with the May 13, 1991 submittal and has determined that these amendments do not alter its analyses or conclusions.

The supporting environmental evaluation for the LTOP technical specification changes is provided in Attachment 7. Based upon the evaluation provided, Southern Nuclear Operating Company has determined that pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9), the proposed license amendment meets the criteria for categorical exclusion and therefore, in accordance with 10 CFR 51.22(b), does not require preparation of an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement.

The Plant Operations Review Committee has reviewed and approved these proposed changes and the Nuclear Operations Review Board will review these proposed changes at a future meeting.

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

Respectfully submitted,

SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY

J. D. Woodard

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME

THIS 13th DAY OF October 1992

Debra J. Burnett

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 9-14-94

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Attachments

cc: Mr. S. D. Ebneter
Mr. S. T. Hoffman
Mr. G. F. Maxwell
Dr. Carole Samuelson

Attachment 1

Proposed Changes

to the

Farley Units 1 and 2

Reactor Coolant System Relief Valves

Technical Specifications

Farley Unit 1
Proposed Changed
Technical Specification Pages

Remove Page	Insert Page
3/4 4-8	3/4 4-8
---	3/4 4-8a
B 3/4 4-2	B 3/4 4-2
---	B 3/4 4-2a

Unit 1

Marked Pages