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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUPPORTING A CHANGE OF IN-SERVICE INSPECTION INTERVAL

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

BRUNSWICK STEAM ELECTRIC PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2

DOCKET NOS. 50-325 AND 50-324

1.0 Introduction

By letter dated May 20, 1985, the Carolina Power & Light Company (the licensee) requested approval to begin the second inspection interval for each unit on a common date. This date would correspond to the date midway between the first interval expiration dates for the two units. The date would be July 10, 1986 and is based on first interval expiration dates of March 17, 1987 and November 2, 1985 for Units 1 and 2, respectively. First interval inspections for both units will be completed within the time specified in the ASME Code.

Section XI, paragraph IWA-2420 of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code specifies In-Service Inspection Intervals. These inspection intervals are related to the date of initial start of power unit commercial operation. The Code of Federal Regulations, Title 10, Part 50.55a, requires that In-Service Inspection Programs meet the requirements of the edition and addenda to the ASME Code in effect twelve months prior to the start of an interval. Because the two units at the Brunswick site have start of commercial operation dates which differ by approximately fifteen months, the possibility of having In-Service Inspection Programs conforming to different editions of the Code exists.

2.0 Evaluation

10 CFR 50.55a requires that piping and components of boiling and pressurized water reactor plants be examined and pressure tested to the requirements of Section XI of the ASME Code and that the examinations and tests be completed during each of four ten-year intervals. These ten-year intervals are calculated from the start date of commercial operation of the facility. By the letter dated May 20, 1985 the licensee requested to use a common start date for the second ten-year interval for the Brunswick Units 1 and 2. By Regulation, the second ten-year interval began or should begin on March 17, 1987 and November 2, 1985 for the Brunswick Units 1 and 2 respectively. The common start date requested was July 10, 1986, a date midway between the two dates now in effect and each a change of about eight months. We have reviewed the request and bases provided by the licensee. We have determined that a common inservice inspection start date for the

two units has inherent administrative, technical, and cost saving advantages for both the licensee and the NRC, some of which are listed below:

(1) the same Code edition and addenda by regulation can by used as the basis for the inservice inspection program for both units,

(2) since the units are similar in design, only one inservice inspection program would have to be written and submitted by the licensee,

(3) the NRC would have to review and approve only one submittal instead of two,

(4) the change of the inservice inspection start date to July 10, 1986 would not affect the completion of examinations and pressure test requirements for the inspection intervals,

(5) the interval change for each unit would be about eight months, and

(6) the first interval inspections for both units would be completed within the time specified in the ASME Code.

Based on the above facts and that the request is made in accordance with provisions set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 10, Part 50.55a, paragraph g (10 CFR 50.55a(g)) which grants a licensee the right to determine that conformance to certain ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code requirements is impractical for his facility, we conclude that the requested change would be beneficial to all concerned and we find that the change should be granted as requested.

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Dated: July 1, 1985