



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 1, 1998

FD-348

Mr. D. N. Morey
Vice President - Farley Project
Southern Nuclear Operating
Company, Inc.
Post Office Box 1295
Birmingham, Alabama 35201-1295

SUBJECT: RELIEF REQUEST FROM THE ASME EXAMINATION COVERAGE
REQUIREMENTS OF THE 1983 EDITION OF SECTION XI WITH SUMMER
ADDENDA THROUGH SUMMER 1993 FOR THE INSERVICE INSPECTION
SECOND 10-YEAR INTERVAL - JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR PLANT,
UNIT 1 (TAC NO. MA1333)

Dear Mr. Morey:

By letter dated March 4, 1998, and supplemented by letter dated August 28, 1998, Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc., submitted requests for relief from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (ASME Code) Section XI requirements for inservice inspection for the Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant, Unit 1, under the provisions of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) Section 50.55a(a).

The NRC staff, with technical assistance from the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL), has completed its review of your requests. The staff has concluded that for Request for Relief RR-55, the proposed alternative to the Code requirements provides an acceptable level of quality and safety. Therefore, the proposed alternative is authorized pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i). For Request for Relief RR-51, the staff concluded that the Code requirements would result in a hardship without a compensating increase in the level of quality and safety. Therefore, the proposed alternative is authorized pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(ii). For Requests for Relief RR-13, -49, -50, -52, -53, and -54, the staff concluded that the Code requirements are impractical to perform. Therefore, relief is granted pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(i). Request for Relief RR-48 was withdrawn by letter dated August 28, 1998. The bases for these conclusions are described in the staff's Safety Evaluation and INEEL's Technical Evaluation Report (enclosed).

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PDR ADOCK 05000348
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If you have any questions regarding this response to your requests, please have your representative contact Jacob I. Zimmerman at (301) 415-2426.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Herbert N. Berkow, Director
Project Directorate II-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-348

- Enclosures: 1. Safety Evaluation
- 2. Technical Evaluation Report

cc w/encs: See next page

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ok done 9/16/98 (above EC5B)
with changes noted (above C Marco)

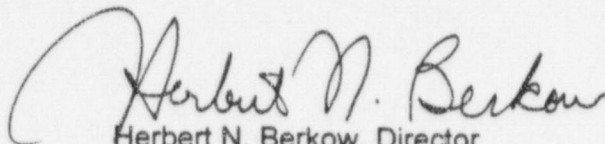
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D. N. Morey

- 2 -

If you have any questions regarding this response to your requests, please have your representative contact Jacob I. Zimmerman at (301) 415-2426.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Herbert N. Berkow". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Herbert N. Berkow, Director
Project Directorate II-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-348

Enclosures: 1. Safety Evaluation
2. Technical Evaluation Report

cc w/encls: See next page

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant

cc:

Mr. L. M. Stinson
General Manager -
Southern Nuclear Operating Company
Post Office Box 470
Ashford, Alabama 36312

Rebecca V. Badham
SAER Supervisor
Southern Nuclear Operating Company
P. O. Box 470
Ashford, Alabama 36312

Mr. Mark Ajluni, Licensing Manager
Southern Nuclear Operating Company
Post Office Box 1295
Birmingham, Alabama 35201-1295

Mr. M. Stanford Blanton
Balch and Bingham Law Firm
Post Office Box 306
1710 Sixth Avenue North
Birmingham, Alabama 35201

Mr. J. D. Woodard
Executive Vice President
Southern Nuclear Operating Company
Post Office Box 1295
Birmingham, Alabama 35201

State Health Officer
Alabama Department of Public Health
434 Monroe Street
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-1701

Chairman
Houston County Commission
Post Office Box 6406
Dothan, Alabama 36302

Regional Administrator, Region II
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, S.W., Suite 23T85
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
7388 N. State Highway 95
Columbia, Alabama 36319