

Mr. Gary J. Taylor
 Vice President, Nuclear Operations
 South Carolina Electric & Gas Company
 Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station
 Post Office Box 88
 Jenkinsville, South Carolina 29065

SUBJECT: APPROVAL TO USE ASME CODE CASE N-416-1 AT V. C. SUMMER
 NUCLEAR STATION (TAC NO. MA1592)

Dear Mr. Taylor:

South Carolina Electric and Gas Company's (SCE&G's) April 29, 1998, letter submitted a relief request seeking NRC approval to use the alternative rules of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code Case N-416-1 for Class 1, 2, or 3 piping and components. We determined that the proposed alternative to use Code Case N-416-1 with the additional examinations proposed, in lieu of performing a system hydrostatic test on Class 1, 2, and 3 piping and components after making welding repairs or installing replacement items by welding, provides an acceptable level of quality and safety. Accordingly, your proposed alternative to use Code Case N-416-1 with additional surface examinations on the root-pass layer of butt and socket welds on the pressure-retaining boundary of Class 3 components is authorized pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i) for Class 1, 2, and 3 systems. We authorize the use of Code Case N-416-1, with the additional surface examination as noted above, for the duration of the currently approved inservice inspection program plan interval, or until the Code case is approved for general use by reference in Regulatory Guide 1.147. At that time, SCE&G must follow the conditions, if any, specified in the regulatory guide. The enclosed Safety Evaluation contains our evaluation of your relief request.

Sincerely,
 ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

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

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 PDR ADOCK 05000395
 P PDR

Docket No. 50-395

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001
November 4, 1998

Mr. Gary J. Taylor
Vice President, Nuclear Operations
South Carolina Electric & Gas Company
Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Herbert N. Berkow".

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

Docket No. 50-395

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

Mr. Gary J. Taylor
South Carolina Electric & Gas Company

VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION

cc:

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