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Energy to Serve Your WorldSM

October 26, 1999

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50-364

NEL-99-0374

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

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant
Response to Request for Additional Information
Category I Cooling Water Storage Pond Dam Safety Audit

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Attached is the Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) response to the NRC Staff request dated July 2, 1999, for additional information regarding the Category I cooling water storage pond dam safety audit. This audit was conducted on October 8, 1998. There are no commitments contained in this submittal.

If there are any questions, please advise.

Respectfully submitted,


Dave Morey

EWC/maf: damlnp.doc

Attachment:

Response to Request for Additional Information
Category I Cooling Water Storage Pond Dam Safety Audit

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PDR ADOCK

Page 2

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

cc: Southern Nuclear Operating Company
Mr. L. M. Stinson, General Manager – Farley

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C.
Mr. L. M. Padovan, Licensing Project Manager – Farley

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region II
Mr. L. A. Reyes, Regional Administrator
Mr. T. P. Johnson, Senior Resident Inspector – Farley

Attachment

**Response to Request for Additional Information
Category I Cooling Water Storage Pond Dam Safety Audit**

Response to Request for Additional Information
Category I Cooling Water Storage Pond Dam Safety Audit

On October 8, 1998, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) conducted an audit of the Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant, Category I cooling water storage pond (service water) dam. The FERC audit report was provided by NRC letter to SNC dated July 2, 1999. The audit concluded that there were no conditions found that should adversely affect the immediate safety and permanence of the dam and associated control facilities. However, pages 13 and 14 of the FERC report discuss the following four actions that SNC should take to ensure the continued safety of the cooling water storage pond dam:

1. Remove vegetation growing from various areas of the facility.
2. Eradicate fire ants on the dam crest.
3. Monitor possible seepage at the downstream toe of the dam.
4. Monitor concrete slabs at the relief drain system exit.

In response to these issues, the J. M. Farley Nuclear Plant staff has taken the following actions.

Issue 1: Remove vegetation growing from various areas of the facility.

FNP Response:

Treatment of the service water storage pond dam upstream protective riprap with a herbicide was completed. A Preventative Maintenance [PM] task has been created to apply herbicide to the service water storage pond dam's upstream protective riprap on an annual basis.

Issue 2: Eradicate fire ants on the dam crest.

FNP Response:

The fire ant colonies observed during the FERC dam inspection were treated and eradicated. In addition, procedural guidance to periodically inspect and treat fire ant mounds on the service water dam has been established.

Issue 3: Monitor possible seepage at the downstream toe of the dam (north of the relief drain).

FNP Response:

Procedural guidance has been established to periodically inspect the toe of the dam for wet spots. To date no additional degradation has been noted.

Issue 4: Monitor concrete slabs at the relief drain system exit.

FNP Response:

Procedural guidance has been established to periodically check the concrete slabs near the outlet of the relief drains for movement. To date no additional degradation has been noted.