



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 29, 1999

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

SUBJECT: JOSEPH M. FARLEY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 RE: COMPLETION
OF LICENSING ACTION FOR GENERIC LETTER 98-01 AND SUPPLEMENT 1
(TAC NOS. MA1835 AND MA1836)

Dear Mr. Morey:

On May 11, 1998, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Generic Letter (GL) 98-01, "Year 2000 Readiness of Computer Systems at Nuclear Power Plants," to all holders of operating licenses for nuclear power plants, except those who have permanently ceased operations and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel. The NRC issued GL 98-01 to ensure that licensees were adequately addressing potential date-related errors with computer systems, embedded software devices, and software applications sufficiently in advance of the Year 2000 (Y2K) rollover date to ensure that nuclear power plants will be in a stable, safe condition during the Y2K transition.

Subsequent to issuing GL 98-01, increased public awareness and government attention to the Y2K issue resulted in concern over not only public health and safety of nuclear power plants, but also concern over the ability of nuclear power plants to continue to provide power to the national electric power grid. Therefore, on January 14, 1999, the staff issued Supplement 1 to GL-98-01 to provide addressees with a voluntary, alternative response to that required in item (2) of GL 98-01. In responding to Supplement 1, addressees were asked to confirm Y2K readiness of the facility with regard to those systems within the scope of the license and NRC regulations, as well as those systems required for continued operation of the facility after January 1, 2000. Addressees were permitted to voluntarily respond to Supplement 1 to GL 98-01 on or before July 1, 1999, in lieu of item (2) of GL 98-01.

Your letters of July 31, 1998, June 7, and June 30, 1999, responded to GL 98-01 and provided the information GL 98-01 requested for Unit 1. Our September 30, 1999, letter closed out GL 98-01 for Farley Unit 1. We did not close out GL 98-01 for Farley Unit 2 since you needed to complete Y2K work on Unit 2. Your October 29, 1999, letter indicated that you completed the remaining Unit 2 Y2K work on October 29, 1999. Therefore, we consider GL 98-01 to be closed for the Farley Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2.

NRC FILE CENTER CAP

NUREG-1706, "Year 2000 Readiness in U.S. Nuclear Power Plants," provides a status of nuclear power plant Year 2000 readiness as of September 1, 1999, and a description of NRC actions to determine Y2K readiness in operating U.S. reactors. The staff assessment of Y2K readiness consisted of independently evaluating nuclear power plant licensee Y2K readiness program processes, reviewing licensee responses to NRC requests for reporting Y2K readiness (i.e., GL 98-01 and Supplement 1), and combining the results on these assessments to achieve

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^ D. R. Morey

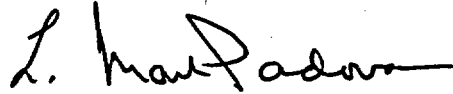
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a high level of assurance that each facility will operate safely during the transition from 1999 to 2000 and on other Y2K sensitive dates. NUREG-1706 is linked to the NRC home page (<http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/NEWS/year2000.html>).

We acknowledge the efforts you have completed to date in preparing your plant for the Y2K transition and appreciate your continued cooperation on this important issue.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (301) 415-1423.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Mark Padovan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "L." and last name "Padovan" clearly distinguishable.

L. Mark Padovan, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-348 and 50-364

cc: See next page

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant

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D. N. Morey

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Sincerely,

Original signed by:

L. Mark Padovan, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-348 and 50-364

cc: See next page

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