

April 12, 2001

Mr. Stephen A. Byrne
Vice President, Nuclear Operations
South Carolina Electric & Gas Company
Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station
Post Office Box 88
Jenkinsville, South Carolina 29065

SUBJECT: V. C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION - CLOSURE OF THE STAFF REVIEW OF
THE SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY RESPONSE TO
GENERIC LETTER 98-02, "LOSS OF REACTOR COOLANT INVENTORY AND
ASSOCIATED POTENTIAL FOR LOSS OF EMERGENCY MITIGATION
FUNCTIONS WHILE IN A SHUTDOWN CONDITION" (TAC NO. MA4810)

Dear Mr. Byrne:

On May 28, 1998, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Generic Letter (GL) 98-02 to all holders of operating licenses for pressurized-water reactors (PWRs), except those who have permanently ceased operations and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel. The NRC issued GL 98-02 to request that PWR licensees evaluate a September 17, 1994, event that occurred at Wolf Creek Generating Station, which had the potential to drain down the reactor coolant system (RCS) to the refueling water storage tank (RWST) and, at the same time, render the emergency core cooling system (ECCS) and residual heat removal (RHR) system inoperable by introducing a steam/water mixture to the suction side of the ECCS and RHR pumps. Addressees of GL 98-02 were requested to provide the following information within 180 days: (1) an assessment of whether the addressee's facility is vulnerable to the September 17, 1994, Wolf Creek event; and (2) if the facility is found to be vulnerable, an assessment of the plant-specific Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 50, Appendix B, quality assurance (QA) program attributes that will prevent the subject event. If the addressee's facility was determined to be vulnerable, a response to information item (1) was to be provided pursuant to 10 CFR 50.54(f) and 10 CFR 50.4, and the responses to information items (1) and (2) were to be kept in a licensee's retrievable system for use by the NRC staff on an as-needed basis.

On November 24, 1998, you provided your response to GL 98-02 for V. C. Summer Nuclear Station (Summer). In this letter, you indicated that Summer has a common suction line from the RWST to the ECCS pumps. Also, the features of your Appendix B QA program that provide assurance that safety-related functions of the RHR system and the ECCS will not be adversely affected by activities conducted at hot shutdown are on file.

On December 4, 1999, the NRC completed an inspection of activities and programs at Summer. This inspection scope included a view of the activities that were implemented to address the issues identified in GL 98-02. On completion of its review, the NRC staff concluded that you have in place adequate measures to reduce the likelihood of a draindown similar to the Wolf Creek event of September 17, 1994. As a result of this inspection,

S. A. Byrne

- 2 -

enhancements were planned to training documents and one procedure. The staff provided the details of its review in NRC Integrated Inspection Report No. 50-395/99-08, which was issued on January 3, 2000.

The NRC staff has reviewed your response to GL 98-02 and has concluded that (1) all the information requested by GL 98-02 has been provided, and (2) that your on-site activities adequately addressed the concerns of GL 98-02 for Summer; therefore, we consider GL 98-02 to be closed.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Karen R. Cotton, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-395

cc: See next page

enhancements were planned to training documents and one procedure. The staff provided the details of its review in NRC Integrated Inspection Report No. 50-395/99-08, which was issued on January 3, 2000.

The NRC staff has reviewed your response to GL 98-02 and has concluded that (1) all the information requested by GL 98-02 has been provided, and (2) that your on-site activities adequately addressed the concerns of GL 98-02 for Summer; therefore, we consider GL 98-02 to be closed.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Karen R. Cotton, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-395

cc: See next page

Distribution:

PUBLIC

PD II-1 Rdg.

REmch (Hard Copy)

EDunnington (Hard Copy)

RidsOgcRp

RidsAcrcAcnwMailCenter

RidsRgn2MailCenter

Document Name: C:\MA4810.wpd

ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER:

OFFICE	PDII-1:PM	PDII-2:LA	PDII-1:SC
NAME	KCotton:cn	EDunnington	REmch
DATE	04/02/2001	03/30/2001	04/09/2001

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Mr. Stephen A. Byrne
South Carolina Electric & Gas Company

VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION

cc:

Mr. R. J. White
Nuclear Coordinator
S.C. Public Service Authority
c/o Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station
Post Office Box 88, Mail Code 802
Jenkinsville, South Carolina 29065

J. B. Knotts, Jr., Esquire
Winston & Strawn Law Firm
1400 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3502

Resident Inspector/Summer NPS
c/o U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
576 Stairway Road
Jenkinsville, South Carolina 29065

Chairman, Fairfield County Council
Drawer 60
Winnsboro, South Carolina 29180

Mr. Henry Porter, Assistant Director
Division of Waste Management
Bureau of Land & Waste Management
Department of Health & Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Mr. Bruce C. Williams, General Manager
Nuclear Plant Operations
South Carolina Electric & Gas Company
Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station, Mail Code 303
Post Office Box 88
Jenkinsville, South Carolina 29065

Mr. Melvin N. Browne, Manager
Nuclear Licensing & Operating Experience
South Carolina Electric & Gas Company
Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station, Mail Code 830
Post Office Box 88
Jenkinsville, South Carolina 29065