

Dave Morey
Vice President
Farley Project

Southern Nuclear
Operating Company, Inc.
Post Office Box 1295
Birmingham, Alabama 35201
Tel 205.992.5131

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Docket No.: 50-348



Energy to Serve Your WorldSM

NEL-01-0293

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant Unit 1
Inspection Results for NRC Bulletin 2001-01
Circumferential Cracking of Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Penetration Nozzles

Ladies and Gentlemen:

NRC Bulletin 2001-01, issued August 3, 2001, requested that licensees respond in accordance with 10 CFR 50.54(f) to provide information relevant to the issue of reactor pressure vessel (RPV) head penetration nozzle cracking and state their plans for inspecting their RPV heads. Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) provided the requested information in our letter of August 31, 2001, including a description of the inspection activities planned for the Farley Unit 1 fall 2001 refueling outage. This outage was completed November 16, 2001, and the results of the RPV head penetration nozzle inspection are hereby provided.

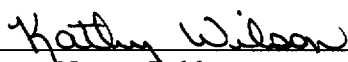
The Farley Unit 1 RPV has 69 control rod drive mechanism (CRDM) penetration nozzles plus 1 head vent penetration nozzle. A full 360° visual inspection of all 70 penetration nozzles was performed using remotely operated video equipment. This inspection sought evidence (i.e., boric acid residue) indicative of leakage from the penetration nozzle / RPV head interface. No evidence of such leakage was apparent from any penetration nozzle.

There are no NRC commitments in this letter. Please advise if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,


Dave Morey

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 3rd day of Dec. 2001



Notary Public

My Commission Expires: June 4, 2005

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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. F. Rinaldi, 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