

December 3, 2003

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

SUBJECT: VIRGIL C. SUMMER FOLLOW-UP LETTER REGARDING VERBAL
PERMISSION TO RESTART

Dear Mr. Byrne:

Verbal permission to restart and relief from American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code, Section XI, Appendix VIII, Supplement 10, depth-sizing requirement, RR-II-20 Addenda, was granted to South Carolina Electric and Gas (SCE&G), Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station, via a telephone conference on November 12, 2003.

During Refueling Outage 14, SCE&G examined V. C. Summer Nuclear Station's reactor vessel nozzle dissimilar metal welds. Ultrasonic testing (UT), eddy current testing, remote visual examination, and surface profile mapping were included in the examinations. The eddy current examination showed no evidence of growth in previously identified indications. The ultrasonic examination verified a pre-existing indication which was determined by SCE&G to be within the ASME Code, Section XI, allowable limits. The UT procedure used for the examination was unsuccessful in demonstrating the depth-sizing ASME Code requirement which prompted the relief request, RR-II-20 Addenda. The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff, with the assistance of an NRC contractor, reviewed the test data created during the UT procedure, Supplement 10, performance demonstration. Based on the review and SCE&G's request for relief submittals dated July 11, September 17, and November 3, 2003, the NRC staff granted, via telephone conference of November 12, 2003, relief request RR-II-20 Addenda and permission to restart the Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station.

The NRC staff will follow-up with separate Safety Evaluations supporting restart and the granting of RR-II-20 Addenda.

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

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

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