



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

August 14, 2015

Mr. C. R. Pierce
Regulatory Affairs Director
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
P. O. Box 1295 / Bin - 038
Birmingham, AL 35201-1295

SUBJECT: JOSEPH M. FARLEY, UNIT 1 - ACCEPTANCE REVIEW REGARDING
PROPOSED INSERVICE INSPECTION ALTERNATIVE (FNP-ISI-ALT-18,
VERSION 1) (TAC NO. MF6475)

Dear Mr. Pierce:

By letter dated July 17, 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML15198A155), the Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc., submitted a relief request for Joseph M. Farley, Unit 1. SNC requests a one-time extension from 10 years to 20 years between examinations required by IWB 2412, Inspection Program B, that requires volumetric examination of essentially 100% of reactor vessel pressure-retaining welds in Table IWB-2500-1.

The licensee submitted the request pursuant to Section 50.55a(z)(1) of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, which requires the applicant to demonstrate that the proposed alternative would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety.

The purpose of this correspondence is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this request. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review. The acceptance review is also intended to identify whether the request has any readily apparent information insufficiencies in its characterization of the regulatory requirements or the licensing basis of the plant.

The NRC staff has reviewed your request and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to continue its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed request in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. Given the lesser scope and depth of the acceptance review as compared to the detailed technical review, there may be instances in which issues that impact the NRC staff's ability to complete the detailed technical review are identified in "requests for additional information" despite completion of an adequate acceptance review. You will be advised of any further information needed to support the NRC staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence.

C. R. Pierce

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If you have any questions, please contact me on (301) 415-1009.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Shawn Williams". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a stylized "S" and "W".

Shawn Williams, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos.: 50-348

cc: Distribution via Listserv

C. R. Pierce

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If you have any questions, please contact me on (301) 415-1009.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Shawn Williams, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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