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F. L. CLAYTON, JR.
Senior Vice President



June 26, 1979

Docket No. 50-348

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Mr. A. Schwencer

Re: Informal Questions On Joseph M.
Farley Nuclear Plant, Unit-1
Reactor Vessel Supports

Dear Mr. Schwencer:

Following are responses to informal questions telecopied to Alabama Power Company by your organization on June 19, 1979.

Question 1: Determine if PWR has water-filled neutron shield tanks which are the major reactor support structure (similar to figure).

Response : The J. M. Farley Nuclear Plant-Units 1 and 2 do not have water-filled neutron shield tanks which are used as reactor vessel support structures.

Question 2: Identify any other vessel support structure which is constructed mostly of structural steel which must bear the weight of the reactor and which is subjected to neutron irradiation (i.e., is adjacent to belt-line region).

Response : FSAR Figures 3M-1 and 3M-2 show the reactor vessel support structure which must bear the weight of the reactor vessel. However, the vessel supports are not subjected to neutron irradiation since the top of the active core elevation (118'-1/2") corresponds to the bottom of the reactor support structure elevation (117'-11 3/8"). Thus, the reactor vessel support structure is not adjacent to the belt-line region. The location of the support structure with reference to the active core is shown in sectional elevation A

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and B of FSAR Figure 6.2-12F.

Question 3: Provide for (1) and (2) above:
(a) Diagram of support structure;
(b) Types of materials and location;
(c) Thickness of materials in (2); and,
(d) NDT measurements in (2), if available.

Response : In light of the responses to Questions 1 and 2, Question 3 is not applicable.

If you have any further questions, please advise.

Yours very truly,


F. L. Clayton, Jr.

FLCJr/TNE/nmb

cc: Messrs. J. T. Young
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