

Southern Nuclear Operating Company
Post Office Box 1295
Birmingham, Alabama 35201
Telephone (205) 868-5131

**SAFEGUARDS INFORMATION
(DECONTROLLED IF DETACHED
FROM THE ENCLOSURE)**



Dave Morey
Vice President
Farley Project

Southern Nuclear Operating Company
the southern electric system

October 9, 1995

10 CFR 73.5

Docket Numbers: 50-348
50-364

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk (SGI)
Washington, DC 20555

Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant (FNP)
Security Plan Changes For The
Biometrics Access Control System

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 73.5, "Specific Exemptions," by letter dated April 3, 1995, Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) requested an exemption from a requirement in 10 CFR 73, "Physical Protection of Plants and Materials." The request was for exemption from the requirement in 10 CFR 73.55(d)(5) for an individual not employed by SNC who requires frequent and extended access to protected and vital areas (i.e., a contractor) be authorized access to protected and vital areas without escort if the individual receives a picture badge upon entrance into such areas and returns the picture badge upon exit from such areas (i.e., not allowed to take the picture badge offsite). By letter dated June 5, 1995, the NRC approved the exemption requested by SNC. Specifically, the NRC's exemption allows implementation of a hand geometry biometrics system for site access control at FNP such that identification badges with photographs may be taken offsite by individuals not employed by SNC. The NRC approved the exemption with the understanding that the hand geometry biometrics system would not be implemented by SNC until the corresponding revisions to the Farley Physical Security Plan had been submitted, reviewed, and approved by the NRC Staff. The revisions to the Farley Physical Security Plan for the hand geometry biometrics system are enclosed for the NRC's review and approval. The hand geometry biometrics system will not be implemented by SNC at Plant Farley until the NRC Staff approves the revisions to the Farley Physical Security Plan.

Please note the following clarifications concerning the NRC's exemption as provided in the June 5, 1995, letter. (1) The last sentence on page 3 states the following: "Badges do not carry any information other than a unique identification number." Farley badges will carry information other than a unique identification number, e.g., individual name and company name; however, Farley badges will not carry site access information. (2) The first sentence of the third complete paragraph on page 4 states the following: "When implemented, SNC will control all points of personnel access into a protected area under the observation of security personnel through the use of a badge and a hand geometry verification system." Personnel access through various vehicle gates to protected areas will not be controlled by the use of a badge and a hand geometry verification system, but will be controlled by procedures detailed in the revised Farley Physical Security Plan (i.e., a security officer will grant access using comparison to the photo badge and verification of an unescorted access authorization using an access authorization list).

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Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

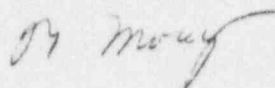
Page 2

The revisions to the Farley Physical Security Plan in the Enclosure contain safeguards information as defined by 10 CFR 73.21, and in accordance with Section 147 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, should not be placed in the NRC public document room. The information categorized as safeguards information is appropriately designated.

If there are any questions, or if additional information is needed, please advise.

Respectfully submitted,

SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY



Dave Morey

DRC/maf:bioprev.doc

Enclosure -- **CONTAINS SAFEGUARDS INFORMATION (SGI)**

cc: Mr. S. D. Ebnetter
Mr. B. L. Siegel
Mr. T. M. Ross

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ENCLOSURE

REVISIONS TO THE FARLEY PHYSICAL SECURITY PLAN
FOR A BIOMETRICS ACCESS CONTROL SYSTEM

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