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Gary J. Taylor
Vice President
Nuclear Operations

April 16, 1996
RC-96-0109

Document Control Desk
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Attention: Mr. Jacob I. Zimmerman

Gentlemen:

Subject: VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION (VCSNS)
DOCKET NO. 50/395
OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-12
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION AMENDMENT REQUEST - TSP 950011
APPENDIX J, OPTION B

South Carolina Electric & Gas Company (SCE&G), acting for itself and as agent for South Carolina Public Service Authority, hereby requests an amendment to the Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station (VCSNS) Technical Specifications (TS) in accordance with 10CFR50.90. This proposed amendment will revise the VCSNS TS 3/4.6 CONTAINMENT SYSTEMS, Bases 3/4.6, and TS 6.8 ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS - PROGRAMS and PROCEDURES, to adopt the implementation requirements of 10CFR50, Appendix J, Option B for the performance of containment leakage rate testing.

Option B of 10CFR50, Appendix J allows the implementation of a performance-based Containment Leakage Rate Testing Program. This performance-based option has been approved and issued as a means of improving the focus of containment leakage rate testing requirements for nuclear power plants by eliminating prescriptive requirements that are marginal to safety and by providing licensees greater flexibility for cost-effective implementation methods for meeting regulatory safety objectives. SCE&G has determined, through review of current Leakage Testing Program history, that adoption of Option B will be cost beneficial to VCSNS, while satisfying regulatory safety objectives.

The proposed amendment request is developed using the guidelines provided in Option B; Regulatory Guide 1.163, PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTAINMENT LEAK-TEST PROGRAM, September 1995; and NEI 94-01, Revision 0, INDUSTRY GUIDELINE FOR IMPLEMENTING PERFORMANCE-BASED OPTION OF 10CFR50, APPENDIX J, July 26, 1995. SCE&G is submitting this request within the prescribed guidelines and does not propose any deviations to the established methods which would impact currently approved analyses and justification or impact the established review process.

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SCE&G will comply with the provisions of 10CFR50, Appendix J, Option B by instituting a performance-based Containment Leakage Rate Testing Program developed utilizing the methods provided by NEI 94-01, as approved and prescribed in Regulatory Guide 1.163.

The amendment request is contained in the following attachments:

- Attachment I Explanation of Changes Summary
 Marked-up Technical Specification Pages
 Revised Technical Specification Pages
- Attachment II Safety Evaluation
- Attachment III No Significant Hazards Determination

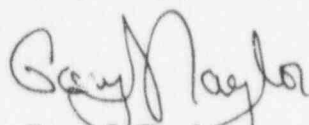
This proposed change has been reviewed and approved by the Plant Safety Review Committee and the Nuclear Safety Review Committee.

SCE&G plans to implement the Containment Leakage Rate Testing Program on August 30, 1996, and requests NRC review and approval of this amendment request prior to this date in order to accommodate implementation.

These statements and matters set forth herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Should you have any questions, please call Mr. Jim Turkett at (803) 345-4047.

Very truly yours,


Gary J. Taylor

JT/GJT/dr
Attachments (3)

c: J. L. Skolds
 W. F. Conway
 R. R. Mahan (w/o Attachments)
 R. J. White
 S. D. Ebner
 NRC Resident Inspector
 J. B. Knotts Jr.
 M. K. Batavia
 K. R. Jackson
 DMS (RC-96-0109)
 RTS (TSP 950011)
 File (813.20)

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA :
: TO WIT :
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD :

I hereby certify that on the 16th day of April 19 96, before me, the subscriber, a Notary Public of the State of South Carolina, personally appeared Gary J. Taylor, being duly sworn, and states that he is Vice President, Nuclear Operations of the South Carolina Electric & Gas Company, a corporation of the State of South Carolina, that he provides the foregoing response for the purposes therein set forth, that the statements made are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information, and belief, and that he was authorized to provide the response on behalf of said Corporation.

WITNESS my Hand and Notarial Seal

Michael J. Zaune
Notary Public

My Commission Expires

My Commission Expires July 13, 2005

Date