

November 7, 2001

Mr. J. B. Beasley, Jr.  
Vice President  
Southern Nuclear Operating  
Company, Inc.  
Post Office Box 1295  
Birmingham, Alabama 35201-1295

SUBJECT: BULLETIN 2001-01, "CIRCUMFERENTIAL CRACKING OF REACTOR  
PRESSURE VESSEL HEAD PENETRATION NOZZLES," RESPONSES FOR  
VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS.  
MB2672 AND MB2673)

Dear Mr. Beasley:

On August 3, 2001, the staff issued Bulletin 2001-01, "Circumferential Cracking of Reactor Pressure Vessel Head Penetration Nozzles," to the industry requesting that addressees provide information related to the structural integrity of the reactor pressure vessel head penetration (VHP) nozzles for their respective facilities, including the extent of VHP nozzle leakage and cracking that has been found to date, the inspections and repairs that have been undertaken to satisfy applicable regulatory requirements, and the basis for concluding that their plans for future inspections will ensure compliance with applicable regulatory requirements at their respective pressurized water reactor plants. You were requested to provide your response to Item 1 of the Bulletin within 30 days of its issuance.

You provided your response by letter dated August 29, 2001. The staff finds that you have provided the requested information and that, based on this information, there is reasonable assurance that the public health and safety will be maintained.

Addressees are reminded that Item 5 of the bulletin requested the following information within 30 days after plant restart following the next refueling outage:

- a. a description of the extent of VHP nozzle leakage and cracking detected at your plant, including the number, location, size, and nature of each crack detected;

Mr. J. B. Beasley, Jr.

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- b. if cracking is identified, a description of the inspections (type, scope, qualification requirements, and acceptance criteria), repairs, and other corrective actions you have taken to satisfy applicable regulatory requirements. This information is requested only if there are any changes from prior information submitted in accordance with this bulletin.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Ramin R. Assa, Project Manager, Section 1  
Project Directorate II  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-424 and 50-425

cc: See next page

- b. if cracking is identified, a description of the inspections (type, scope, qualification requirements, and acceptance criteria), repairs, and other corrective actions you have taken to satisfy applicable regulatory requirements. This information is requested only if there are any changes from prior information submitted in accordance with this bulletin.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Ramin R. Assa, Project Manager, Section 1  
 Project Directorate II  
 Division of Licensing Project Management  
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-424 and 50-425

cc: See next page

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Vogtle Electric Generating Plant

cc:

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