

January 27, 2000

Mr. D. E. Young, Vice President  
Carolina Power & Light Company  
H. B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant,  
Unit No. 2  
3581 West Entrance Road  
Hartsville, South Carolina 29550

SUBJECT: H. B. ROBINSON STEAM ELECTRIC PLANT, UNIT NO. 2 (HBRSEP2) -  
COMPLETION OF LICENSING ACTION FOR GENERIC LETTER 99-02,  
"LABORATORY TESTING OF NUCLEAR-GRADE ACTIVATED CHARCOAL"  
(TAC NO. MA5838)

Dear Mr. Young:

On June 3, 1999, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Generic Letter (GL) 99-02, "Laboratory Testing of Nuclear-Grade Activated Charcoal," to all holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors, except those who have permanently ceased operations and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel.

The purpose of the GL was to:

- (1) Alert addressees that the NRC has determined that testing nuclear-grade activated charcoal to standards other than American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) D3803-1989, "Standard Test Method for Nuclear-Grade Activated Carbon," does not provide assurance for complying with the current licensing basis as it relates to the dose limits of General Design Criterion (GDC) 19 of Appendix A to Part 50 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) and Subpart A of 10 CFR Part 100.
- (2) Request that all addressees determine whether their Technical Specifications (TS) reference ASTM D3803-1989 for charcoal filter laboratory testing. Addressees whose TS do not reference ASTM D3803-1989 should either amend their TS to reference ASTM D3803-1989 or propose an alternative test protocol and provide the information discussed in the requested actions.
- (3) Alert addressees to the staff's intent to exercise enforcement discretion under certain conditions.
- (4) Request that all addressees send the NRC written responses on the implementation of the actions requested in this GL.

In GL 99-02, the NRC staff established the following four groups of plants:

- (1) plants in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989

- (2) plants in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989
- (3) plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989
- (4) plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989

In response to GL 99-02, you provided a response to the above GL via your response dated November 30, 1999, for HBRSEP2. Associated with your response was a request for a license amendment to change your TS to provide for testing as described in the GL. The NRC staff has reviewed your response and has concluded that you have provided requested information and a TS change request as required by the GL. In the interim, until the proposed change to the Ventilation Filter Testing Program is approved, you indicated a plan to test to both the existing TS requirements and ASTM D3803-1989 standards. However, as indicated in the GL, dual testing is not necessary. You need only perform the test in accordance with the ASTM D3803-1989 standard. We consider GL 99-02 to be closed for HBRSEP2. The TS change will be reviewed as a separate plant-specific action under TAC No. MA7254. We thank you for your prompt and complete response.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Ram Subbaratnam at (301) 415-1478.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Ram Subbaratnam, Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate II  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-261

cc: See next page

January 27, 2000

- (2) plants in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989
- (3) plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with ASTM D3803-1989
- (4) plants not in compliance with their TS that test in accordance with a test protocol other than ASTM D3803-1989

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PM:PDII-S2	LA:PDII-S2	LPM	SC:SPLB	SC:PDII-S2
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1/19/00	1/19/00	1/21/00	1/21/00	1/27/00
Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No	Yes/No

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Plant, Unit No. 2

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