

January 24, 2000

Mr. Lewis Sumner, Vice President  
Hatch Project Support  
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
40 Inverness Parkway  
Post Office Box 1295  
Birmingham, Alabama 35201

SUBJECT: Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, Request for Exemption from 10 CFR 50.30 (a)(2), 51.55 (a), and 2.101 (a)(3), and Request for Exception to 10 CFR 50.4 (b) and 50.4 (c): Written Submittal Requirements

Dear Mr. Sumner

This letter is in response to your November 12, 1999, letter in which you requested an exemption allowing CD-ROMs to be used instead of paper to meet the copy requirements under 10 CFR 50.30(a)(2), 51.55(a), and 2.101(a)(3). You also requested an exception allowing CD-ROMs instead of paper to meet the copy requirements under 10 CFR 50.4(b) and 50.4(c).

We have reviewed your request and have determined that it will be acceptable to file CD-ROMs instead of paper for all sections cited above as exceptions allowed under 10 CFR 50.4(b) and 50.4(c), making your request for an exemption unnecessary. The broad language of 10 CFR 50.4 (b) covers all copy requests under part 50 and extends as well to the copy requirements in 10 CFR 51.55 because the environmental report required in that section is part of the license application.

Based on this determination, pursuant to 50.4 (b) and 50.4 (c), Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. "SNC" is hereby granted the following exceptions for the medium used for the "copies" of signed originals required by 10 CFR 50.4 (b)(2)(ii), 50.4 (b)(3), and 51.55 (a):

- Your November 12 letter indicated that you intend for your initial submittal to include all copies of the application required by 10 CFR 50.4(b)(3) for the acceptance review as well as the subsequent number of copies required by 10 CFR 50.4(b)(2)(ii) after docketing of your application. Therefore, SNC is hereby granted approval to submit the combined number of copies as follows: the signed original and 51 CD-ROM copies of applications for permits and licenses for facilities described in 10 CFR 50.21(b) or 50.22, and amendments to these applications to the Document Control Desk, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington DC 20555-001, two CD-ROM copies to the NRC Region II Office, and one CD-ROM copy to the NRC Resident Inspector located at the Hatch site.
- SNC is hereby granted approval to include with the initial submittal, an additional 41 CD-ROM copies of environmental reports or supplements of environmental reports by copy to the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation(NRR) to meet the requirements of 10 CFR 51.55 (a).

L. Sumner

- SNC requested approval to provide CD-ROM copies to the chief executive of the local government in accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 2.101(a)(3)(ii), and to Federal, State, and local officials in accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 2.101(a)(3)(iii), 50.30(a)(2) and 51.55(a). Use of CD-ROM copies for these officials is acceptable to the NRC. However, prior to distributing CD-ROM copies to recipients other than the NRC, SNC should contact each recipient to determine if the CD-ROM is an acceptable alternative to the paper copy.
- SNC is granted approval to submit one signed original and the same number of CD-ROM copies as originally submitted for each document to meet the requirement to update the renewal application in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR Parts 2, 50, 51, and 54.
- With respect to copy requirements for retaining supporting information on site pursuant to 10 CFR 50.30 (a)(2) and 51.55 (a), SNC is hereby granted approval to maintain this information in the form of electronic files which, upon request, can be readily reproduced in paper or electronic form.
- To facilitate the review of large detailed drawings included in the application, such as those used to define system scoping boundaries, the staff will need, in addition to the electronic copies, a limited number of sets of paper copies. The staff will coordinate with SNC to determine if such drawings will be used and, if so, the required number.

As indicated in your letter, SNC will work with the NRC staff to define an acceptable format for information provided on the CD-ROM to ensure that the information is accessible to the NRC staff as well others who will receive the CD-ROM copies. Currently, we are accepting updated Final Safety Analysis Reports (FSARs) on CD-ROM formatted as normal Portable Document Files which are accessible using Adobe Acrobat reader/browser. We will also work with SNC to determine how changes to your renewal application submitted as CD-ROM updates will be identified on the CD-ROM.

The NRC reserves the right to modify or rescind this exception upon written notification. Please contact Keith R. Shaw of my staff at (301) 415-3801 or e-mail [krs@nrc.gov](mailto:krs@nrc.gov) if you have any questions or require additional information. Mr. Shaw will serve as the point of contact for defining format requirements for CD-ROM copies.

Sincerely,

Brenda J. Shelton, Chief  
Records Management Branch  
Information Management Division  
Office of the Chief Information Officer

Docket Nos. 50-321 and 50-366

cc: See next page  
L. Sumner

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Sincerely,  
 /RA/  
 Brenda J. Shelton, Chief  
 Records Management Branch  
 Information Management Division  
 Office of the Chief Information Officer

Docket Nos. 50-321 and 50-366

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**\*See previous concurrence**

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