

Mr. Gary J. Taylor
 Vice President, Nuclear Operations
 South Carolina Electric & Gas Company
 Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station
 Post Office Box 88
 Jenkinsville, South Carolina 29065

January 15, 1997

SUBJECT: INSERVICE TESTING PROGRAM, RELIEF FROM CODE ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA REQUIREMENTS OMA-1988, PART 6, SECTION 6.1, FOR CHARGING PUMP "A" - VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION (TAC NO. M97314)

Dear Mr. Taylor:

By letter dated November 20, 1996, as supplemented on January 10, 1997, South Carolina Electric and Gas Company, the licensee for the Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station, submitted a relief request proposing not to perform increased frequency testing on their "A" charging pump. During substantial flow testing in accordance with the guidance in Generic Letter 89-04, Position 9, pump bearing vibration was observed to be in the alert range. The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel (B&PV) Code requires the test frequency to be doubled when pump hydraulic or mechanical parameters enter the alert range as specified by the Code. The licensee has proposed to perform a monthly vibration monitoring program of the pump until the 10th refueling outage when full-flow testing can be performed.

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has reviewed the proposed alternative referenced above against the requirements of Section XI of the ASME B&PV Code pursuant to paragraph 50.55a of Part 50 to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations. The results of the review are provided in the enclosed Safety Evaluation. This completes TAC Number M97314.

Sincerely,
 (Original Signed By)
 F. Mark Reinhart, Director (Acting)
 Project Directorate II-1
 Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-395
 Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

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Mr. Gary J. Taylor
South Carolina Electric & Gas Company

VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION

cc:

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