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March 18, 2002

Docket Nos. 50-321  
50-366

HL-6217

Mr. Samuel J. Collins  
Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Order For Interim Safeguards and Security Compensatory Measures  
Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, Units 1 & 2  
Request for Extension of Time to Submit an Answer or Request a Hearing

Dear Mr. Collins:

Section IV of the NRC's February 25, 2002, Order For Interim Safeguards and Security Compensatory Measures states that, in accordance with 10 CFR 2.202, a licensee must submit an Answer to the Order and may request an extension of time in which to submit an Answer or to request a hearing on the Order within 20 days of the date of the Order. In addition, the Order states "[w]here good cause is shown, consideration will be given to extending the time to request a hearing."

For the following reasons, Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) hereby requests an extension of time to supplement the Answer to the Order for the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant submitted March 18, 2002 and to request a hearing.

As required by Condition C.1. of the Order, SNC's response identifies specific actions to be taken to comply with each applicable requirement and provides a schedule for implementation. We have responded to Conditions B.1. and B.2. by identifying requirements with which (1) SNC is unable to comply; (2) compliance is unnecessary in SNC's specific circumstances; (3) compliance would cause SNC to be in violation of a Commission regulation or the facility license; or (4) implementation would adversely impact safe operation of the facility.

In a few instances, we are unable to complete the necessary evaluations to determine what actions are appropriate and what an appropriate schedule for implementation would be within the required response time.

Because we will be unable to ascertain what actions would be appropriate in the context of meeting the NRC's intent for these measures, we will be unable to determine whether it is necessary to request a hearing until the NRC notifies SNC that the actions and proposed schedule described in our response satisfy the intent of the applicable requirements of the Order.

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Because of the unique nature of the situation that precipitated issuance of the Order, pursuant to Section IV of the Order, SNC requests (1) an extension of time to file an answer for Interim Compensatory Measures B.1., B.2., and B.3.c. until August 31, 2002, for completing the analyses or evaluations and informing the NRC of the specific actions to be taken to implement those measures, and (2) that a comparable extension of time to file a request for hearing will be granted for those matters.

Respectfully submitted,



H. L. Sumner, Jr.  
Southern Nuclear Operating Company

JL/eb

cc: Southern Nuclear Operating Company  
Mr. P. H. Wells, General Manager - Plant Hatch  
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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC  
Mr. L. N. Olshan, Project Manager - Hatch

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region II  
Mr. L. A. Reyes, Regional Administrator  
Mr. J. T. Munday, Senior Resident Inspector - Hatch