

April 11, 2002

Mr. Stephen A. Byrne
Senior Vice President, Nuclear Operations
South Carolina Electric & Gas Company
Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station
Post Office Box 88
Jenkinsville, South Carolina 29065

SUBJECT: VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT NO. 1 - ISSUANCE OF
AMENDMENT RE: REVISION OF VENTILATION SYSTEM AIR FLOW
VELOCITY UNITS (TAC NO. MB1844)

Dear Mr. Byrne:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 159 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-12 for the Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1. The amendment changes the Technical Specifications (TS) in response to your application dated April 18, 2001.

This amendment revises volumetric air flow units for TS 4.7.6.c.1, c.3, e.1, e.3, f, and g to identify standard air flow units expressed as standard cubic feet per minute. Volumetric air flow units for TS 4.6.3.b.1, b.2, c.1, and d, and TS 4.9.11.b.1, b.3, d.1, e, and f are being revised to identify actual air flow units and are expressed as actual cubic feet per minute.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is enclosed. Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's Bi-weekly Federal Register notice. This completes the staff's efforts on TAC No. MB1844.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Gordon E. Edison, Senior Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-395

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 159 to NPF-12
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosures: See next page

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Package Number: ML

*See previous concurrence

NRR-058

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SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY

SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY

DOCKET NO. 50-395

VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT NO. 1

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 159

License No. NPF-12

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment by South Carolina Electric & Gas Company (the licensee), dated April 18, 2001, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications, as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment; and paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-12 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications and Environmental Protection Plan

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 159 , and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, are hereby incorporated in the license. South Carolina Electric & Gas Company shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. This amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

John A. Nakoski, Chief, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: April 11, 2002

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 159

TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-12

DOCKET NO. 50-395

Replace the following pages of the Appendix A Technical Specifications with the attached revised pages. The revised pages are identified by amendment number and contain marginal lines indicating the areas of change.

Remove Pages

3/4 6-15

3/4 6-16

3/4 7-15

3/4 9-12

3/4 9-13

Insert Pages

3/4 6-15

3/4 6-16

3/4 7-15

3/4 9-12

3/4 9-13

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 159 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-12
SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS COMPANY
SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY
VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT NO. 1
DOCKET NO. 50-395

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By application dated April 18, 2001, South Carolina Electric & Gas Company (SCE&G, the licensee) requested changes to the Technical Specifications (TS) for the Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station (VCSNS). The proposed changes would revise volumetric air flow units for TS 4.7.6.c.1, c.3, e.1, e.3, f, and g to identify standard air flow units expressed as standard cubic feet per minute (SCFM). Volumetric air flow units for TS 4.6.3.b.1, b.2, c.1, and d, and TS 4.9.11.b.1, b.3, d.1, e, and f are being revised to identify actual air flow units and are expressed as actual cubic feet per minute (ACFM).

2.0 EVALUATION

ACFM and SCFM are units for volumetric air flow rates. ACFM is a measure of the actual volumetric air flow rate at the conditions of the air stream. The density of air varies with temperature and pressure. SCFM is a measure of the volumetric flow rate if the air stream were at standard conditions. Standard conditions are defined as 70°F and 1 atmosphere pressure.

The term "CFM" currently used at VCSNS is an acronym for cubic feet per minute and does not properly relate to design considerations nor does it account for the effect of air density. Design air flow is typically based on air at standard conditions. Volumetric air flows measured for the surveillances of TS 4.7.6 are converted for air density changes and expressed in SCFM. The existing nomenclature of CFM does not present this information adequately. Volumetric air flows measured for TS 4.6.3 and TS 4.9.11 are expressed in ACFM due to their specific design application.

The NRC staff finds this change acceptable because these terms clarify the units of air flow relating to the conditions required by the affected TS. The change does not increase the probability of an accident, there is no adverse effect to equipment safety, nor is there a reduction in margin of safety.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the State of South Carolina official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment changes surveillance requirements. The NRC staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (66 FR 29361). Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: Karen Cotton

Date: April 11, 2002

Mr. Stephen A. Byrne
South Carolina Electric & Gas Company

VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION

cc:

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