

October 9, 2003

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

SUBJECT: LICENSE RENEWAL SAFETY EVALUATION REPORT FOR THE VIRGIL C.
SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION

Dear Mr Byrne:

By letter dated August 6, 2002, South Carolina Electric and Gas Company (SCE&G) submitted, for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) review, an application pursuant to 10 CFR Part 54, to renew the operating license for the Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station (VCSNS) for an additional 20 years. The NRC determined that the License Renewal Application (LRA) was complete and acceptable for docketing on September 27, 2002. The NRC staff has reviewed the VCSNS license renewal application and has developed the enclosed "Safety Evaluation Report With Open Items Related to the License Renewal of the Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station," herein after referred to as the Safety Evaluation Report (SER). This SER reflects the status of the staff's review of the applicant's license renewal application, requests for additional information and clarification, the applicant's responses to the NRC staff's requests through September 26, 2003, unless otherwise noted. Issuance of the enclosed SER is an important milestone for both the applicant and the staff.

The NRC staff has not identified any open or confirmatory items in its review. However, in accordance with the schedule for completing the review of the VCSNS LRA, the applicant is requested to review the enclosed SER, verify its accuracy, and provide comments by December 29, 2003. The NRC staff plans to review the current content and format of the SER to further improve the SER while incorporating the applicant's responses. A complete, revised SER will then be issued by March 11, 2004.

The staff is committed to completing the review of the VCSNS SER in a timely manner. If you have any questions regarding this matter, you can contact the project manager, Rajender Auluck, at (301) 415-1025.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Pao-Tsin Kuo, Program Director
License Renewal and Environmental Impacts
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-395

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/enclosure: See next page

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*See Previous Concurrence

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Docket No. 50-395 Enclosure: As stated cc w/enclosure: See next page

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VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION

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