

H. L. Sumner, Jr.  
Vice President  
Hatch Project

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December 11, 2003

Docket No.: 50-321

NL-03-2412

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Document Control Desk  
Washington, D. C. 20555-0001

Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant  
License Amendment  
Request for Delay in Implementation of the Hatch Unit 1  
Measurement Uncertainty Recapture Power Uprate

Ladies and Gentlemen:

By letter dated December 19, 2002, Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) submitted to the NRC a license amendment request for the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2. On September 23, 2003, the NRC issued Amendment No. 238 to Renewed Facility Operating License DPR-57 and Amendment No. 180 to Renewed Facility Operating License NPF-5 for the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2. The license amendments were effective on the date of issuance and were required to be implemented within 90 days of issuance.

SNC requests a delay in implementing the Measurement Uncertainty Recapture Power Uprate (MURPU) for Hatch Unit 1. The recent discovery of leaking fuel bundles on Unit 1 has forced an adjustment of the control rod pattern to suppress the power in the leaking bundles. SNC will operate in this suppressed rod pattern for the remainder of the current operating cycle. Consequently, SNC requests deferring the implementation of the Hatch Unit 1 MURPU until May 1, 2004. This date allows for implementation following start-up from the spring 2004 refueling outage, which is currently scheduled to begin on February 14, 2004. Implementation for Hatch Unit 2 is complete.

(Affirmation and signature are on the following page).


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Mr. H. L. Sumner, Jr. states he is a Vice President of Southern Nuclear Operating Company, is authorized to execute this oath on behalf of Southern Nuclear Operating Company and to the best of his knowledge and belief, the facts set forth in this letter are true.

This letter contains no NRC commitments. If you have any questions, please advise.

Respectfully submitted,

SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY



H. L. Sumner, Jr.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 11 day of December, 2003.



  
Notary Public

My commission expires: April 28, 2007

HLS/WHC/daj

cc: Southern Nuclear Operating Company  
Mr. J. D. Woodard, Executive Vice President  
Mr. G. R. Frederick, General Manager – Plant Hatch  
Document Services RTYPE: CHA02.004

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Mr. L. A. Reyes, Regional Administrator  
Mr. S. D. Bloom, NRR Project Manager – Hatch  
Mr. D. S. Simpkins, Senior Resident Inspector – Hatch

State of Georgia  
Mr. L. C. Barrett, Commissioner – Department of Natural Resources