

August 15, 2007

Mr. Tom E. Tynan
Vice President - Vogtle
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
7821 River Road
Waynesboro, GA 30830

SUBJECT: DETERMINATION OF ACCEPTABILITY AND SUFFICIENCY FOR
DOCKETING, PROPOSED REVIEW SCHEDULE, AND OPPORTUNITY FOR A
HEARING REGARDING THE APPLICATION FROM SOUTHERN NUCLEAR
OPERATING COMPANY, INC., FOR RENEWAL OF THE OPERATING
LICENSES FOR THE VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 1
AND 2

Dear Mr. Tynan:

By letter dated June 27, 2007, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received the Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.'s application for renewal of operating licenses NPF-68 and NPF-81 for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP), Units 1 and 2. Notice of receipt of this application was published in the *Federal Register* on August 3, 2007 (72FR43296). The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the NRC staff's acceptance review of the license renewal application (LRA) for VEGP. The acceptance review determines whether the application contains sufficient information to allow the NRC staff to proceed with the safety and environmental review.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application following the guidance in NUREG-1800, Revision 1, "Standard Review Plan for Review of License Renewal Applications for Nuclear Power Plants," and determined that the application is acceptable for docketing, in accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), specifically 10 CFR 54.19, 54.21, 54.22, 54.23, and 51.53(c). However, the staff's determination does not preclude requests for additional information (RAIs) as the review proceeds.

As discussed with your staff, the NRC was operating under a Continuing Resolution (CR) at the beginning of this fiscal year. The CR was in effect until February 2007 and impacted all license renewal schedules that were developed during this fiscal year. As a result, the schedule for VEGP was extended from the standard 30 months to 31 months. This letter forwards the NRC staff's safety and environmental review schedule for the VEGP application (Enclosure 1). The NRC staff will follow established review procedures and the enclosed schedule to complete the reviews required by 10 CFR Part 54 and 10 CFR Part 51. The staff established this schedule in accordance with a 31-month review plan, which includes time to conduct a hearing, should a hearing be requested and granted. The enclosed schedule does not include milestones for hearing activities because the Commission or the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will establish these dates.

I would like to emphasize that the review of your LRA will be very detailed and thorough. The NRC staff will make every effort to meet the scheduled milestones; thus, your responses to the

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staff's RAls, if needed, must be complete and provided in a timely manner. We request that you inform the NRC staff as early as possible should potential delays arise in your support of the schedule.

Finally, we have also enclosed a copy of the notice related to your application that is being sent to the Office of the Federal Register for publication (Enclosure 2). This notice announces the opportunity to request a hearing and to file a petition for leave to intervene.

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact Mr. Donnie J. Ashley, Sr. Project Manager for the review of the VEGP LRA, by telephone at 301-415-3191 or via e-mail at DJA1@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Pao-Tsin Kuo, Director
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-424 and 50-425

Enclosures:
As stated

cc w/encls: See next page

T. Tynan

-2-

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/RA/

Pao-Tsin Kuo, Director
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-424 and 50-425

Enclosures:
As stated

cc w/encls: See next page

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ADAMS Accession No.: **ML072010369**

OFFICE	PM:RLRA:DLR	LA:DLR	OGC	BC:RLRA:DLR	D:DLR
NAME	DAshley	IKing	BMizuno	LLund	PTKuo
DATE	8/1/07	8/1/07	8/8/07	8/13/07	8/15/07

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Letter to T. Tynan From P.T. Kuo Dated August 15, 2007

DISTRIBUTION:

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AND 2

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DAshley

JPLeous

BSingal

CJulian, RII

GMcCoy, RII

BAnderson, RII

Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2

cc:

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Waynesboro, GA 30830

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Burke County Commission
Waynesboro, GA 30830

Ms. Julie Keys
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708

VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2
 LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION
 REVIEW SCHEDULE

Milestone	Scheduled	Actual
Receive License Renewal (LR) Application	06/29/07	06/29/07
Federal Register Notice (FRN) published - Receipt & Availability review	08/10/07	08/03/07
FRN published - Acceptability/Opportunity for Hearing	08/21/07	
Public Information Meeting - LR Process & Safety Review Overview	08/21/07	
FRN published - Intent/Environmental Scoping Meeting	08/24/07	
Public Meeting - Environmental Scoping	09/27/07	
Deadline for filing hearing requests and petitions for intervention	10/17/07	
Environmental Scoping Periods Ends	10/24/07	
Environmental Requests for Additional information (RAIs) Due	11/26/07	
Safety RAIs - Due	12/14/07	
Environmental RAIs - responses due	01/02/08	
Safety RAI - responses due	01/18/08	
Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)	04/22/08	
Public Exit Meeting - Scoping & Screening/AMP Inspections	04/30/08	
FRN Published - Availability/Comment on draft SEIS	05/02/08	
Public Meeting - draft SEIS	06/05/08	
End of draft SEIS comment period	07/16/08	
Safety Evaluation Report (SER) with Open Item(s)	09/12/08	
ACRS Subcommittee Meeting on SER with Open Item(s)	11/2008	
SER Open Item(s) - Response(s) Due	12/10/08	
Final SEIS	12/30/08	
FRN published - Availability of Final SEIS	01/02/09	
SER - issued	01/19/09	
ACRS Full Committee Meeting on SER	04/2009	
Decision - Director, NRR (license issued, if approved and no hearing is granted - 23 months)	06/01/09	
Commission Decision (if hearing is granted - 31 months)	01/22/10	