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Nuclear Licensing Director

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June 11, 2012

Docket Nos.: 50-321
50-366

NL-12-1264

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant – Units 1 & 2
Southern Nuclear Operating Company Response to NRC Request for Information
Pursuant to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations 50.54(f) Regarding the
Seismic Aspects of Recommendations 2.1 of the Near-Term Task Force Review
of Insights from the Fukushima Daiichi Accident

References:

1. NRC Letter, *Request for Information Pursuant to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations 50.54(f) Regarding Recommendations 2.1, 2.3, and 9.3, of the Near-Term Task Force Review of Insights from the Fukushima Daiichi Accident*, dated March 12, 2012

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On March 12, 2012, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Reference 1 to all power reactor licensees and holders of construction permits in active or deferred status. Enclosure 1 of Reference 1 contains specific Requested Actions, Requested Information, and Required Responses associated with Recommendation 2.1, Seismic Evaluations. Reference 1 requires that, if an addressee cannot meet the requested response date, it must provide a response to the NRC within 90 days of the date of the information request describing the licensee's proposed alternative course of action, the basis for the acceptability of the proposed alternative course of action, and the estimated completion dates. Southern Nuclear Operating Company's (SNC) original response letter (NL-12-1132) to Reference 1, dated June 8, 2012, is superseded by this letter.

SNC has determined that it can meet the requested response dates for submitting the Seismic Hazard Evaluation, provided that the NRC and industry reach a mutual understanding of critical implementation details associated with calculating the seismic hazard by the end of July 2012. For example, the critical details that need to be mutually understood prior to commencement of the new seismic hazard evaluations include the elevation(s) at which the hazard/GMRS will be calculated and the development of site amplification factors for sites with limited soil/rock profile data.

Within 60 days of the NRC endorsement of the Screening, Prioritization and Implementation guidance, SNC will submit: (1) its intention to follow the endorsed guidance, or (2) provide an alternative approach. At that time, SNC will assess whether it can meet the submittal deadlines for the Seismic Risk Evaluation and take the appropriate regulatory action.

This letter contains no NRC commitments. If you have any questions, please contact Jack Stringfellow at (205) 992-7037.

Mr. M. J. Ajluni states he is Nuclear Licensing Director 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.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 11th day of June, 2012.

Nancy Louise Henderson
Notary Public

My commission expires: March 23, 2014

Respectfully submitted,

Mark J. Ajluni

M. J. Ajluni
Nuclear Licensing Director



MJA/CLN/lac

cc: Southern Nuclear Operating Company
Mr. S. E. Kuczynski, Chairman, President & CEO
Mr. D. G. Bost, Executive Vice President & Chief Nuclear Officer
Mr. D. R. Madison, Vice President – Hatch
Mr. B. L. Ivey, Vice President – Regulatory Affairs
Mr. B. J. Adams, Vice President – Fleet Operations
RTYPE: CHA02.004

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mr. V. M. McCree, Regional Administrator
Mr. P. G. Boyle, NRR Senior Project Manager – Hatch
Mr. E. D. Morris, Senior Resident Inspector – Hatch