



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION II
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

September 4, 2012

Mr. B. L. Ivey
Vice President, Regulatory Affairs
Southern Nuclear Operating Company
P.O. Box 1295
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Birmingham, AL 35201

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING
PLANT UNITS 3 AND 4 (NRC INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 05200025/2012007
AND 05200026/2012007)

Dear Mr. Ivey:

On August 9, 2012, the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed its mid-cycle performance review of Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) Units 3 and 4. The NRC reviewed the most recent inspection results and enforcement actions from January 1, 2012, through June 30, 2012. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility.

The NRC determined the performance at VEGP Units 3 and 4 during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Construction Reactor Oversight Process (cROP) Action Matrix because all inspection findings had very low (i.e., green) safety significance. Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct cROP baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through December 31, 2012. Routine inspections performed by construction resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed are tentative and may be revised based on construction activities occurring at the site. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact me at (404) 997-4540 with any questions you have regarding this letter or inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Michael E. Ernstes, Chief
Construction Project Branch 4
Division of Construction Projects

Docket Nos.: 52-00011, 52-00025, 52-00026
License Nos.: NPF-91, NPF-92

Enclosure:
Vogtle Inspection Plan

cc w/encl.: (See next page

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cc w/encl.: (See next page)

☒ PUBLICLY AVAILABLE

☐ NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE

☐ SENSITIVE

☒ NON-SENSITIVE

ADAMS: ☒ Yes

ACCESSION NUMBER: **ML12243A503**

☒ SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE ☒ FORM 665 ATTACHED

OFFICE	RII:DCP	RII:DCP					
SIGNATURE	JK	GK					
NAME	J. Kent	G. Khouri					
DATE	8/21/12	8/23/12					
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

OFFICIALRECORD COPY DOCUMENT NAME: [HTTP://PORTAL.NRC.GOV/EDO/RII/CCI/DCP/CPB4/ASSESSMENTS/MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENTS/2012/VOGTLE/ATTACHMENT-1_](http://portal.nrc.gov/EDO/RII/CCI/DCP/CPB4/ASSESSMENTS/MID-CYCLE%20ASSESSMENTS/2012/VOGTLE/ATTACHMENT-1_MID-CYCLE%20LETTER.DOCX) MID-CYCLE LETTER.DOCX

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Letter to B. L. Ivey from Michael E. Ernstes, dated September 4, 2012

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PLANT UNITS 3 AND 4 (NRC INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 05200025/2012007
AND 05200026/2012007)

Distribution w/encl:

ROPassessment Resource

NRO_cROP Resource

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C. Abbott, RII Vogtle Units 3 & 4 RI

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Vogle Inspection Plan

Programmatic Inspections (IMC 2504)	
Est. Date	Description
3Q 2012	Construction QA Semiannual Implementation
4Q2012	Fitness For Duty

ITAAC Inspections (IMC 2503)	
Est. Date	Description
2012	<p>The majority of Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria (ITAAC) related inspections, in 2012, are expected to be associated with the following construction and fabrication activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Foundation and waterproof membrane installation 2. Containment vessel fabrication 3. Nuclear Island construction 4. Structural and mechanical module fabrication <p>The NRC staff will also inspect miscellaneous ITAAC and Design Acceptance Criteria activities (e.g. Protection and Safety Monitoring System and Human Factors Engineering development, type tests, and other ITAAC related work on site and at vendor facilities).</p>
3Q-4Q 2012	<p>Rebar Work Associated with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NI • Unit 3 Containment Vessel • CR-10
3Q-4Q 2012	Unit 4 Waterproofing Membrane Installation
3Q-4Q 2012	Submodule Fabrication in the MAB
3Q-4Q 2012	Unit 3 & 4 CV Fabrication
4Q 2012	NI Basemat Pour
4Q 2012	Reactor Pressure Vessel Receipt Inspection