

March 13, 2013

Mr. B. L. Ivey, Vice President
Regulatory Affairs
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
PO Box 1295
Bin B022
Birmingham, AL 35201

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF NO OBJECTION FOR PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT REQUEST
(PAR 13-005), "TURBINE BUILDING ECCENTRIC AND CONCENTRIC
BRACING," FOR THE VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT UNIT 3
COMBINED LICENSE

Dear Mr. Ivey:

By letter dated March 1, 2013, Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) submitted a Preliminary Amendment Request (PAR) 13-005 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML13063A530) notifying the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) that absent NRC objection, and pending the outcome of the NRC staff's detailed technical review of Licensing Amendment Request (LAR) 13-005, SNC will proceed with construction of the turbine building structure, including placing the turbine building column base-plates, setting and fastening the fabricated wall sections and columns upon these base-plates, welding structural elements to the base-plates, and grouting the base-plate assemblies. In addition, SNC also stated that no testing is impacted by the change to the turbine building bracing design.

As required by License Condition 2.D.(1), the NRC staff has received the license amendment request (LAR 13-005) referenced in PAR 13-005. The staff evaluated the license amendment documentation supporting LAR 13-005 and has determined that there is sufficient information to accept LAR 13-005 for review (ADAMS Accession Number ML13051A373).

The NRC staff has determined that PAR 13-005 contained a sufficient description of the no significant hazards consideration determination, the categorical exclusion from environmental review, and of the impact of the proposed plant change on associated Inspections, Tests, Analyses and Acceptance Criteria. In addition, the NRC staff has reviewed the scope of PAR 13-005 and finds that it is consistent with the changes from the current licensing basis as requested in LAR 13-005. Therefore, the NRC staff has no objection to SNC proceeding with construction of the turbine building structure, including placing the turbine building column base-plates, setting and fastening the fabricated wall sections and columns upon these base-plates, welding structural elements to the base-plates, and grouting the base-plate assemblies, as identified in PAR 13-005, pending the outcome of the NRC staff's detailed technical review of LAR 13-005. SNC acknowledges that if LAR 13-005 is denied, SNC will return the plant to its current licensing basis.

B. L. Ivey

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If you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, please contact the Senior Project Manager, Ravindra Joshi, at 301-415-6191 or via e-mail at ravindra.joshi@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

David B. Matthews, Director
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket No.: 52-025

cc: See next page

B. L. Ivey

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If you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, please contact the Senior Project Manager, Ravindra Joshi, at 301-415-6191 or via e-mail at ravindra.joshi@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

David B. Matthews, Director
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket No.: 52-025

cc: See next page

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NRO-002

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OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

B. L. Ivey

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(Revised 02/25/2013)

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