

April 30, 2013

MEMORANDUM TO: Lawrence J. Burkhart, Acting Chief
Licensing Branch 4 (LB4)
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

FROM: Anthony Minarik, Project Manager */RA/*
Licensing Branch 4 (LB4)
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF PUBLIC MEETING WITH SOUTHERN NUCLEAR
COMPANY AND SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS ON
MARCH 28, 2013

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) held a Category 2 public meeting with Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) and South Carolina Electric & Gas (SCE&G) to discuss licensing actions related to the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant Units 3 and 4 and Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station Units 2 and 3 on March 28, 2013. The topic of discussion at the meeting was SNC's draft submittal of License Amendment Request (LAR) 13-008, "Fire Area Boundaries" (LAR 13-008).

Enclosures 1 and 2 are the meeting agenda and attendance list for the meeting, and the material discussed during the meeting is referenced by its Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number. The discussed license amendment can be found at ADAMS Accession Number ML13078A345.

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Meeting Summary:

On March 28, 2013, staff from the NRC had a public meeting with representatives from SNC and SCE&G to discuss SNC's draft submittal of LAR 13-008. Through this license amendment, SNC, the licensee, requested five things of the NRC all pertaining to changes to Fire Areas in the Turbine Building or Annex Building: 1) allow them to move a fire area in the annex building between Computer Rooms A & B; 2) allow them to change the shape of the fire area in the Turbine Building Lube Oil Storage Room, because the room itself is being changed as well; 3) allow them to add a stairwell to a fire area in the Northwest Corner of the Turbine Building; 4) allow them to relocate a stairwell (No. 8) in the Turbine Building.; and 5) allow them to remove a heating ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) shaft. The draft LAR was submitted on March 13, 2013.

At this meeting the NRC asked the licensee to better explain or justify some of the information included in the draft when they submit their request officially, especially a statement regarding a position that SNC takes that no fires are postulated to occur in the added stairwell. Additionally, the staff had several unresolved questions regarding security, that would need to be handled at a future meeting because the security-related details can not be discussed with the public per 10 CFR 2.390. Another open issue for the staff was the licensee's interpretation of Tier 1 Figures and how the requested changes could affect them. This is important because currently SNC claims that there are no Tier 1 changes involved with this request and therefore an exemption from the certified design is not required. SNC plans to re-submit this LAR after the meeting discussing the security questions as a final submittal without submitting an additional draft for pre-submittal clarification.

Two members of the public, Tom Clements of the South Carolina chapter of Friends of the Earth and Sarah Barczak of the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy, raised comments or questions for the NRC. Mr. Clements had three questions, first he asked the NRC what design number the Vogtle plant was on. The NRC replied that the numbers given to license amendments as they come in are simply the sequential order, as they are submitted. The licensee has change control over the actual license at this point, and has the ability to make changes without prior NRC approval, so it's difficult for the NRC to know the exact design number of the plant itself. Mr. Clements then asked if the problems found with the Turbine Building addressed by this LAR would be creating future problems, and if the NRC is proceeding with the foresight to identify any potential problems that this LAR may cause in the future. The staff replied that they can only review what the licensee submits, and ensure that the licensee complies with the licensing basis. No approved amendment would create a safety issue, but if somehow a process or logistical issue came about due to a requested change, the onus is on the licensee to correct the issue. Finally Mr. Clements raised the comment that while the issues that are being raised seem simple at this point, it also seems like things should have been worked out during the review process of the AP1000 design and Combined License. Mr. Clements remains concerned that these small issues could be a foreshadowing of bigger issues in the future. The NRC assured Mr. Clements that it would be unrealistic to expect that nothing from the design or combined license application would be changed during construction. The level of detail required by the Final Safety Analysis Report and regulation in the application is not robust enough to capture all of the minute details properly some changes are to be expected. The staff noted that the type of little back and forth between design and construction experienced at the plants is no different than what would be experienced at any construction project site. Ms. Barczak asked if this particular request was going to be handled individually for each plant, and what the NRC planned to do to address this or ensure that the other licensees followed suit in order that they not review the same thing over again. The staff replied that one option available to plants once

they get their license is that they can cite precedent review for an LAR in order to increase the efficiency of the review of their particular LAR. The staff did say that individual LARs would be required of each licensee, or current or future applicants could address the issue as part of their application. The NRC staff also pointed out that there is an AP1000 Owners Group that work together to share information and lessons learned about the application and construction. Finally, the NRC stated that should an issue pass a certain threshold and be safety-related, the NRC has the ability to quickly impose changes on all licensees or applicants.

Docket Nos.: 052-025
052-026
052-027
052-028

Enclosures:
As stated

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Docket Nos.: 052-025
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Enclosures:
 As stated

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ADAMS ACCESSION NO.: ML13099A122 *via e-mail NRC-001

OFFICE	LA: DNRL/LB4	PM: DNRL/LB4	(A)BC: DNRL/LB4
NAME	RButler	AMinarik	LBurkhart
DATE	04/18/13	04/22/2013	04/23/2013

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AGENDA FOR PUBLIC MEETING

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC)

Thursday, March 28, 2013

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

PURPOSE: To discuss resolution of issues to support the safety review of licensing actions for Southern Nuclear Operating Company's (SNC) Vogtle Electric Generating Plant Units 3 and 4 and South Carolina Electric & Gas's (SCE&G) Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Site Units 2 and 3.

<u>Time</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Led By</u>
9:00 a.m.	Opening Remarks	NRC
9:05 a.m.	Discussion of LAR 13-008	SCE&G/NRC
10:30 a.m.	Conclusion/Action Items	SNC/SCE&G/NRC
10:40 a.m.	Public Comment	PUBLIC
11:00 a.m.	Adjourn	

LIST OF MEETING ATTENDEES
Thursday, March 21, 2013

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)

L. Burkhart
R. Joshi
A. Minarik
R. Vettori
S. Lee
J. Frost*

Southern Nuclear Operating Company

A. Aughtman
T. Amundson
B. Meadors
A. Quarles
E. Grant
W. Smith
N. Haggerty

South Carolina Electric & Gas

A. Monroe
J. Gillespie
B. Barwick

Westinghouse Electric Company

S. Leighty
T. Sokalak*
M. Sleight*
M. Bear*
G. Adams*
K. Schafer*
K. Gilman*
J. Kucher*
D. Reed* – CB&I

Public*

T. Clements – Friends of the Earth, South Carolina
S. Barczak – Southern Alliance for Clean Energy
B. Jacobs – Georgia Public Service Commission
E. Davis – Department of Energy Contractor
G. Madden – Florida Power & Light

* attended via telephone bridge line

Enclosure 2

Vogtle Units 3 & 4 Mailing List
cc:

(Revised 04/03/2013)

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(Revised 04/03/2013)

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