

November 21, 2016

Mr. Ronald A. Jones, Vice President
New Nuclear Deployment
South Carolina Electric & Gas Company
P.O. Box 88
Jenkinsville, SC 29065

SUBJECT: VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION UNITS 2 AND 3 – ISSUANCE OF
AMENDMENT NO. 54 AND GRANTING OF EXEMPTION REGARDING
HYDROGEN IGNITER CHANGES (CAC NO. RQ0444)

Dear Mr. Jones:

In response to your application dated May 6, 2015, and as supplemented by your letter dated December 15, 2015, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has granted the enclosed Exemption and issued the enclosed Amendment No. 54 to Combined Licenses (COL) Nos. NPF-93 and NPF-94 for the Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station (VCSNS) Units 2 and 3, respectively. The amendment consists of changes to the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report in the form of departures from the Tier 2 information in the AP1000 Design Control Document (DCD) and involves conforming changes to the Tier 2 Technical Requirements Manuals, plant-specific Tier 1 information, and the associated COL Appendix C information for VCSNS Units 2 and 3. The changes include adding two additional hydrogen igniters to the in-containment refueling storage tank roof vents. The changes also remove control of the hydrogen igniters from the protection and safety monitoring system, clarify the controls available for the hydrogen igniters at the remote shutdown workstation, and maintain consistency of the design aspects of the hydrogen igniters to within the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report.

The exemption allows a departure from elements of the certified information in Tier 1 of the AP1000 Certified DCD, as specified in License Amendment Request 14-18. The plant-specific Tier 1 changes consist of the number, location, and inspection, test, analysis, and acceptance criteria (ITAAC) of the hydrogen igniters specified in DCD Tier 1, Chapter 2, Table 2.2.3-6, Table 2.3.9-2, and Table 2.3.9-3, respectively. The amendment authorized changes to the VCSNS Units 2 and 3 UFSAR by approving two hydrogen igniters near the in-containment refueling water storage tank roof vents and by approving the changes in the description of the hydrogen igniter controls.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation, which includes the evaluation of the amendment and exemption, is also enclosed. The notice of issuance of the amendment and the exemption documents included in this letter will be published in the *Federal Register*.

Sincerely,

/RA/

William (Billy) Gleaves, Senior Project Manager
Licensing Branch 4
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos.: 52-027 and 52-028

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 54 to VCSNS Unit 2 COL
2. Amendment No. 54 to VCSNS Unit 3 COL
3. Exemption for VCSNS Unit 2 COL
4. Exemption for VCSNS Unit 3 COL
5. Safety Evaluation

cc: See next page

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Sincerely,

/RA/

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