

June 9, 2016

Mr. Brian H. Whitley, Director  
Regulatory Affairs  
42 Inverness Center Parkway  
BIN B237  
Birmingham, AL 35242

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF NO OBJECTION FOR PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT REQUEST  
(PAR 16-003), "COLUMN LINE N ITAAC DIMENTION CHANGE" FOR THE  
VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT UNITS 3 AND 4 (CAC NO. RT5002)

Dear Mr. Whitley:

By letter dated May 17, 2016, Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) submitted a Preliminary Amendment Request (PAR) 16-003 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML16158A315) notifying the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) that absent NRC objection, pending the outcome of the NRC's detailed technical review of License Amendment Request (LAR) 16-003 (ADAMS Accession Number ML16138A431), SNC will proceed with concrete placement to Elevation 100'-0" for the column line N wall in the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) Unit 3 auxiliary building in accordance with the increased concrete wall thickness tolerance change proposed in the plant-specific Tier 1 (and associated Appendix C) and Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR) descriptions in LAR 16-003 to minimize potential construction delays for Unit 3 during the NRC's evaluation of the related LAR 16-003.

As required by License Condition 2.D.(1) the NRC has received LAR 16-003, referenced in PAR 16-003. The staff has evaluated the license amendment documentation supporting LAR 16-003 and has determined that there is sufficient information to accept LAR 16-003 for detailed technical review (ADAMS Accession Number ML16155A329).

The NRC staff has determined that PAR 16-003 contained sufficient information on the impact of the proposed plant change on associated Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria. In addition, the NRC staff reviewed the scope of PAR 16-003 and found that it is consistent with the changes from the current licensing basis as requested in LAR 16-003. Therefore, the NRC has no objection to SNC proceeding with the construction of the proposed plant change identified in PAR 16-003, pending the outcome of the NRC's detailed technical review of LAR 16-003. SNC acknowledges that if LAR 16-003 is denied, SNC will return the plant to its current licensing basis as required by License Condition 2.D.(1)(b).

B. H. Whitley

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If you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, please contact the Project Manager, Chandu Patel, at 301-415-3025 or via e-mail at [Chandu.Patel@nrc.gov](mailto:Chandu.Patel@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,  
*/RA/*

Francis M. Akstulewicz, Director  
Division of New Reactor Licensing  
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos.: 52-025  
52-026

cc: See next page

B. H. Whitley

- 2 -

If you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, please contact the Project Manager, Chandu Patel, at 301-415-3025 or via e-mail at Chandu.Patel@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,  
**/RA/**

Francis M. Akstulewicz, Director  
Division of New Reactor Licensing  
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos.: 52-025  
52-026

cc: See next page

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**ADAMS Accession No.: ML16159A151**

**\*via email**

**NRO-002**

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Vogtle Units 3 & 4 Mailing List  
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(Revised 09/03/2015)

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