

October 4, 2016

Mr. Brian H. Whitley, Director
Regulatory Affairs
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
42 Inverness Center Parkway, B022
Birmingham, AL 35242

SUBJECT: VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT UNITS 3 AND 4 — ISSUANCE OF
AMENDMENT AND GRANTING OF EXEMPTION RE: PASSIVE CORE
COOLING SYSTEM (PXS) DESIGN CHANGES TO ADDRESS POTENTIAL GAS
INTRUSION (TAC NO. RT5004)

Dear Mr. Whitley:

In response to your application dated May 5, 2016, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has granted the enclosed Exemption and issued the enclosed Amendment No. 55 to Combined Licenses (COL) Nos. NPF-91 and NPF-92 for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) Units 3 and 4, respectively. The proposed amendment consists of changes to the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR) and plant-specific Tier 1 information, with corresponding changes to Appendix C of the Facility Combined Licenses (COL) for normal residual heat removal and containment air filtration system piping lines.

The amendment allows changes to the passive core cooling system for the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report in the form of departures from the incorporated plant-specific Design Control Document (PS-DCD) Tier 2 information. The exemption allows changes that impact Tier 1 of the Plant-Specific DCD and Appendix C of the COL as specified in License Amendment Request (LAR) 16-004. This exemption is related to, and necessary for the granting of LAR 16-004, which is being issued concurrently with this exemption.

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/

Paul Kallan, Senior Project Manager
Licensing Branch 4
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket No(s): 52-025
52-026

Enclosures:

1. Exemption for License Amendment No. 55
for VEGP Unit 3 COL
2. Exemption for License Amendment No. 55
for VEGP Unit 4 COL
3. Amendment No. 55 to NPF-91
4. Amendment No. 55 to NPF-92
5. Safety Evaluation

cc: See next page

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/

Paul Kallan, Senior Project Manager
Licensing Branch 4
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

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| DATE | 08/29/16 | 09/28/16 | 9/21/16 | 10/3/16 | 10/4/16 |

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Revised (09/19/2016)

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