

October 24, 2016

MEMORANDUM TO: Jennifer Dixon-Herrity, Chief
Licensing Branch 4
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

FROM: Jordan Hoellman, Project Manager */RA/*
Licensing Branch 4
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF A PUBLIC MEETING WITH SOUTHERN NUCLEAR
OPERATING COMPANY AND SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS
ON OCTOBER 6, 2016

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff held a Category 2 public meeting with Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) and South Carolina Electric & Gas (SCE&G) on October 6, 2016. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss issues associated with the safety review of licensing actions for SNC's Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) Units 3 and 4, and SCE&G's Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station (VCSNS) Units 2 and 3.

The meeting notice can be found in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under Accession Number ML16270A183. The meeting notice is also posted on the NRC's public website. Enclosures 1 and 2 are the meeting agenda and attendance list for the meeting, respectively. The other documents referenced during the discussion can be found at the ADAMS Accession Numbers given below:

- NRC Staff Discussion Topics Regarding
Digital Instrumentation and Control (I&C) – ML16272A139
Pre-Operational Testing Strategy

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Summary of Meeting:

On October 6, 2016, staff from the NRC conducted a public meeting with representatives from SNC and SCE&G to discuss issues associated with the safety review of licensing actions for SNC's VEGP Units 3 and 4, and SCE&G's VCSNS Units 2 and 3. Specifically, the meeting discussed the licensee's digital I&C pre-operational testing strategy and NRC staff discussion talking points. The purpose for the meeting was to better understand the background and concerns the licensees had regarding this topic.

The licensees noted that I&C system development and testing of digital technology is different than analog technology and new plant construction decades ago. Much of the digital I&C testing and development was performed at Westinghouse Electric Company's (WEC) facility instead of the construction site. The licensee's approach to the initial test program is to build upon the detailed level testing at the factory and not repeat that detailed level testing unless design changes were involved. The initial test program would focus on system interfaces, performance, and functionality. The licensees noted there would be overlap between pre-operational tests and factory tests and walked through an example during the closed portion of the meeting. The licensees were concerned that initial test program inspectors may have a fundamental issue with their approach, which would then take significant resources and time to correct. Currently, the NRC has little to no inspection guidance regarding their approach, which involves overlap of testing at the factory and at the site.

The NRC staff stated the licensee's approach, at a high level, is what the staff expected them to do, and the staff did not have any fundamental issues with the high level approach. In discussing the next steps, the licensees would like for the NRC staff to inspect their initial test procedures involving the digital I&C pre-operational testing strategy at the upcoming inspection in January–February 2017. If the NRC waits to inspect test procedures later in 2017, they would already be implementing the testing strategy, and it would expose them to more schedule/resource risk. The following action items were discussed, and appear to address the concerns the licensees have regarding the AP1000 digital I&C pre-operational testing strategy:

1. The NRC will look at the licensee's initial test program inspection procedures to see how to incorporate guidance to address the factory/site testing aspect of digital I&C systems.
2. The NRC will discuss internally and determine if the initial test program inspection in January–February 2017 could also look at the test procedures that implement the AP1000 digital I&C testing strategy. The January–February 2017 inspection would be led by Region II.

At the end of the open portion of the meeting, there was an opportunity for the public to provide comments and ask questions. All comments and questions were addressed before moving to the closed portion of the meeting.

In the closed portion of the meeting, the proprietary details of the digital I&C pre-operational testing strategy were discussed, including the licensees walking through an example to describe the overlap between pre-operational tests and factory tests.

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

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/encls: See next page

In the closed portion of the meeting, the proprietary details of the digital I&C pre-operational testing strategy were discussed, including the licensees walking through an example to describe the overlap between pre-operational tests and factory tests.

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

Enclosure:
As stated

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ADAMS Accession No.: ML16287A568

NRC-001

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NAME	JHoellman (c)	RButler (c)	JDixon-Herrity (c)	JHoellman (s)
DATE	10/21/16	10/20/16	10/24/16	10/24/16

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**AGENDA FOR PUBLIC MEETING
U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC)
Thursday, October 6, 2016
9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

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

OPEN

<u>Time</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Led By</u>
9:00 a.m.	Opening Remarks	NRC
9:05 a.m.	Digital Instrumentation and Control (I&C) Pre-Operational Testing Strategy	NRC/SCE&G/SNC/WEC
10:30 a.m.	Opportunity for Public Comment	PUBLIC/NRC

CLOSED

10:45 a.m.	Discussion on proprietary details regarding Digital I&C Pre-Operational Testing Strategy	NRC/SCE&G/SNC/WEC
11:30 a.m.	Adjourn	

PUBLIC MEETING
UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
Thursday, October 6, 2016
9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

List of Attendees

Name	Organization
Representing the Nuclear Regulatory Commission	
Jordan Hoellman	NRO/DNRL/LB4
Chandu Patel	NRO/DNRL/LB4
Billy Gleaves	NRO/DNRL/LB4
David Curtis	NRO/DEIA/ICE
Bill Roggenbrodt *	NRO/DEIA/ICE
Terry Jackson	NRO/DCIP/QVIB1
Phil Natividad *	NRO/DCIP/QVIB1
Kerri Kavanagh	NRO/DCIP/QVIB3
Coleman Abbott	NRO/DCIP/QVIB3
Brian Smith	NRO/DCIP
Greg Galletti *	NRO/DCIP/QVIB1
Thomas Fredette *	NRO/DCIP/CIPB
Robert Mathis *	R-II/DCO/IB1
Paul Pieringer	NRO/DCIP/HOIB
Representing Industry	
Michael Yox	Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC)
Bob Hirmanpour	SNC
John Aufdenkampe	SNC
Curtis Shiley	SNC
Kelli Roberts	SNC
Jason Redd *	SNC
Chris Whitfield *	SNC
Fred Willis *	SNC
Joe Fletcher *	SNC
Wes Sparkman *	SNC
David Jones *	SNC
April Rice	South Carolina Electric & Gas (SCE&G)
Dave Lavigne	SCE&G
Rod Steffy	SCE&G
Nick Kellenberger *	SCE&G
Dean Kersey *	SCE&G

Name	Organization
Dana Hyde	Westinghouse Electric Company (WEC)
Rick Paese *	WEC
Sarah DiTomasso *	WEC
Representing Public	
Ravi Joshi *	Public
Sara Barczak *	Southern Alliance for Clean Energy
Bill Jacobs *	GDS Associates
Kate Lashay *	GA Public Service Commission
Steve Franzone *	Florida Power and Light

* = participated via teleconference

Vogtle Units 3 & 4 Mailing List
cc:

Revised (09/28/2016)

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(Revised 10/03/2016)

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