



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 30, 2018

Ms. Cheryl A. Gayheart  
Regulatory Affairs Director  
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
3535 Colonnade Parkway  
Birmingham, AL 35243

SUBJECT: VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 – REVIEW OF  
RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RE: LICENSE  
AMENDMENT REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO UTILIZE THE TORNADO  
MISSILE RISK EVALUATOR TO ANALYZE TORNADO MISSILE PROTECTION  
NON-CONFORMANCES (EPID L-2017-LLA-0350)

Dear Mr. Hutto:

By letter dated October 11, 2017 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML17284A348), Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. (SNC, the licensee), submitted a license amendment request (LAR) regarding Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2 (Vogtle). By reference, the submittal incorporated Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) 17-02, Revision 1, which contained the Tornado Missile Risk Evaluator (TMRE) methodology (ADAMS Accession No. ML17268A023). The proposed amendments would modify the licensing and design bases as described in the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report to include a new methodology based on NEI 17-02, Revision 1, for determining the structures, systems, and components (SSCs) that require protection from tornado-generated missiles.

On June 1, 2018 (ADAMS Accession No. ML18136A497), the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff issued a request for additional information (RAI) regarding this review. By letter dated July 26, 2018 (ADAMS Accession No. ML18207A876), SNC provided a response to this request. In addition to replying to the information request, the response submittal included additional changes, some of which are beyond the scope of the original LAR as noticed in 83 FR 13150 and appear to be generic issues not directly related to Vogtle's implementation of the methodology (e.g., the addition of submerged SSCs).


The NRC staff notes that, as discussed in a public meeting on August 2, 2018 (summary of the meeting is available under ADAMS Accession No. ML18215A424), SNC will need to augment its response to RAI questions 11, 13a, and 19c to fully address NRC staff information needs to continue its review. The discussion in the meeting appeared to indicate that the requested augmentation was understood by your staff and supplemental information would be provided. Following receipt of the augmented responses and barring the need for any additional RAIs, the NRC staff expects to be able to substantially complete its review of the LAR as originally noticed prior to expiration of the NRC's fee waiver (ADAMS Accession No. ML17125A106).

Unless SNC elects to remove the additional changes, the NRC staff will incorporate the additional generic scope into its review; however, it is noted that this would necessitate re-noticing of the LAR for an additional 60 day comment and hearing request period. SNC should understand that

our review of the additional generic scope will be focused on the methodology elements as they relate to Vogtle, and will likely cause the review to go past the October 11, 2018, expiration date of the fee waiver for this activity. At that point, all subsequent NRC staff efforts associated with the review will be billed at the full rate.

If you have any questions, please contact the assigned project manager by telephone at (301) 415-2481 or by e-mail at [ed.miller@nrc.gov](mailto:ed.miller@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathryn M. Brock". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kathryn M. Brock, Deputy Director  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-424 and 50-425

cc: Listserv

SUBJECT: VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 – REVIEW OF RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RE: LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO UTILIZE THE TORNADO MISSILE RISK EVALUATOR TO ANALYZE TORNADO MISSILE PROTECTION NON-CONFORMANCES (EPID L-2017-LLA-0350) DATED AUGUST 30, 2018

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**ADAMS Accession No. ML18236A445**

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