

Vogle PEmails

From: Kallan, Paul
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2018 9:28 AM
To: Vogle PEmails
Subject: Acceptance letter for LAR 18-019.docx
Attachments: Acceptance letter for LAR 18-019.docx

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From: Kallan, Paul

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Recipients:
"Vogtle PEmails" <Vogtle.PEmails@nrc.gov>
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August 28, 2018

Mr. Brian H. Whitley, Director
Regulatory Affairs
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
42 Inverness Center Parkway
BIN B237
Birmingham, AL 35242

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE REVIEW OF SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING
COMPANY'S REQUEST FOR LICENSE AMENDMENT (LAR 18-019) FOR
THE VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT UNITS 3 AND 4 –
CREDITING PREVIOUSLY COMPLETED FIRST PLANT AND FIRST THREE
PLANT TESTS (EPID L-2018-LLA-0212)

Dear Mr. Whitley:

By letter dated August 3, 2018 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under Accession No. ML18215A382), Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC/licensee) submitted a license amendment request (LAR) 18-019 for Combined License (COL) Numbers NPF-91 and NPF-92, for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) Units 3 and 4, respectively. The requested amendment requires changes to the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR) in the form of departures from the incorporated plant-specific Design Control Document (DCD) Tier 2* and Tier 2 information and related changes to the VEGP Units 3 and 4 COL and COL Appendix C (and corresponding plant-specific DCD Tier 1) information. Specifically, the requested amendment includes changes to previously first plant only and first three plant only testing as described in the licensing basis documents, including COL Condition 2.D.(2)(a) and plant-specific Tier 1 Section 2.1.3. The documentation to establish a valid prototype reactor internals in accordance with Regulatory Guide 1.20 is also included.

SNC has also requested an exemption from the provisions of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 52, Appendix D, Section III.B, "Design Certification Rule for the AP1000 Design, Scope and Contents," to allow a departure from the elements of the certification information in Tier 1 of the generic Design Control Document.

The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of the LAR. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical reviews. The acceptance review is also intended to identify whether the application has any readily apparent information insufficiencies in its characterization of the regulatory requirements or the licensing basis of the plant.

Consistent with Section 50.90 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), an amendment to the license must fully describe the changes requested, and follow as far as applicable, the form prescribed for original applications. Section 52.79 of the 10 CFR addresses the content of technical information required. This section stipulates that the submittal address the design and operating characteristics, unusual or novel design features, and principal safety considerations.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment.

Given the lesser scope and depth of the acceptance review as compared to the detailed technical review, there may be instances in which issues that impact the NRC staff's ability to complete the detailed technical review are identified despite completion of an adequate acceptance review. You will be advised of any further information needed to support the NRC staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence.

SNC has requested NRC staff approval of this LAR by February 1, 2019. As we agreed, the staff intends to complete this action by February 1, 2019 as requested, unless we agree to a different date at a later time due to circumstances beyond our control. The staff estimates that it may take 730 staff hours to complete this licensing action.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-2809 or Paul.Kallan@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Docket Nos.: 52-025
52-026