



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

December 4, 2018

MEMORANDUM TO: Jennifer L. Dixon-Herrity, Chief  
Licensing Branch 4  
Division of Licensing, Siting, and  
Environmental Analysis  
Office of New Reactors

FROM: Jordan Hoellman, Project Manager /RA/  
Licensing Branch 4  
Division of Licensing, Siting, and  
Environmental Analysis  
Office of New Reactors

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF A PUBLIC MEETING WITH SOUTHERN NUCLEAR  
OPERATING COMPANY ON NOVEMBER 1, 2018

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff held a Category 1 public meeting with Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) on November 1, 2018. 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.

The meeting notice can be found in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under Accession No. ML18263A189. The meeting notice is also posted on the NRC 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 Nos. given below:

- SNC's Intent to Submit an Exemption Request from Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), – ML18295A591  
Part 26, "Fitness-for-Duty Programs," paragraph 26.4(f)
- Draft Request for Exemption regarding Part 26 Visitor Access Requirements – ML18298A056
- Pre-Submittal Presentation for Request for Exemption Regarding Part 26 Visitor Access Requirements – ML18298A058

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### Summary of Meeting:

On November 1, 2018, staff from the NRC conducted a public meeting with representatives from SNC to discuss issues associated with the safety review of licensing actions for SNC's VEGP Units 3 and 4. Specifically, the meeting discussed SNC's draft request for exemption from 10 CFR 26.4(f), which requires individuals who construct or direct the construction of safety- or security-related structures, systems, and components (SSCs) to be subject to a fitness-for-duty (FFD) program that meets 10 CFR Part 26, Subpart K, "FFD Program for Construction," requirements.

SNC walked through the pre-submittal presentation, noting that 10 CFR Part 26 requires application of 10 CFR Part 26, Subpart K, during the construction phase, which provides no provisions for escorting visitors, while 10 CFR 73.55, "Requirements for physical protection of licensed activities in nuclear power reactors against radiological sabotage," allows escorted visitor access at operating plants. There was a free exchange of information in order for the staff to better understand SNC's draft exemption. Safeguards Information (SGI) was not discussed. Staff from the NRC's Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR) discussed and noted the following topics with representatives from SNC. No commitments were made by either SNC or NSIR staff during this meeting.

1. The staff noted that SNC's draft request paralleled the escorting requirements in 10 CFR 73.56(g). Based on a preliminary technical review, it appeared that SNC made reference to Regulatory Guide (RG) 5.76, "Physical Protection at Nuclear Power Plants" (SGI). The staff and SNC discussed generalities associated with:
  - a. Procedure for processing, escorting and controlling visitors
  - b. Confirming true identify
  - c. Maintaining a visitor control register
  - d. Badging for visitor and escorts. Clearly identifying as a "visitor" and "escort required"
  - e. Escorting responsibilities: continuous visual observation; visitors under effective control of the escort; escorts understanding the SSCs being constructed; escorts empowered to stop work; escorts provided with timely and effective means to report issues to Security; escorts effectively trained/briefed/informed of SSC(s) being worked, responsibilities, behavioral observation training (NANTL), etc.
2. The staff noted that the justification for the specified limited period of time for allowing visitor access under control of an escort (14 days or less in a 30-day period) was not provided in the draft request. The staff and SNC discussed consideration of (1) operating reactor experience and RG 5.76 and (2) long-term intermittent visitors – beyond 30 days for activities such as non-destructive examination, welding, recurrent visits over a long period of time (activities that could be performed by a single contractor over a long period of time).
3. The staff noted that provisions to escort vehicles was not provided in the draft request. The staff and SNC discussed consideration of construction vehicles under escort – e.g., truck-mounted cranes, lifts, and diggers.

4. The staff and SNC discussed the use of 10 CFR 52.103(g) as a milestone instead of the transition of the SNC “construction FFD/access program” to a full FFD/access program – e.g., based on a licensee-determination/designation of the Protected Area or the 10 CFR 52.103(g) finding.
5. The staff discussed that the construction site work force is different from an operating unit work force, and FFD data indicates differences. SNC noted that they continue to implement a defense-in-depth program with oversight, work controls, training, etc.
6. The staff and SNC discussed denial of access, if denied in the Personnel Access Data System (PADS), and how SNC reviews Entergy and NextEra PADS-like information. SNC noted that they are leveraging the 10 CFR 73.56 access authorization process with 10 CFR 73.57 considerations and that construction databases (VEGP Units 3 and 4) are separate from, but will be merged with, operating databases (VEGP Units 1 and 2).
7. The staff and SNC discussed consideration of visitors/escorts performing security-related construction activities. SNC noted that they determine when an SSC or information becomes SGI or requires a Need-to-Know. This determination is dependent, in part, on the Protected Area designation.
8. The staff and SNC discussed Security Interface to understand guidance, instruction, training, etc. provided to Security personnel to inform them of new escort program.
9. The staff noted that the estimated size of the escort service was not provided in the draft request. SNC noted that the size of escort service is management controlled and noted that construction activities are similar to, but not equivalent to operating reactor outage activities.
10. The staff noted that the escort-to-visitor ratio was not provided in the draft request. The staff and SNC discussed a performance-based ratio based on the work being performed and the effectiveness of escort to perform escort duties and responsibilities. SNC noted that the power reactor (RG 5.76) ratio is not entirely applicable to construction-type activities.
11. The staff and SNC discussed Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)-based protections, and SNC noted that the escort program will have considerations for workers performing confined or hazardous space activities.
12. The staff and SNC discussed routine trending and monitoring of performance (i.e., corrective actions).

SNC noted that they understood the staff’s comments and questions and stated that they would revise the exemption request, as necessary, to address the comments and questions. The NSIR staff stated that they would be open to additional discussions if requested by SNC and noted that they would perform its detailed review once the exemption request is formally submitted.

At the end of the meeting, there was an opportunity for the public to provide comments and ask questions. There were no comments or questions from members of the public.

Docket Nos.: 052-025 and 052-026

Enclosure:

As stated

cc w/encls: See next page

SUMMARY OF A PUBLIC MEETING WITH SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY  
ON NOVEMBER 1, 2018 DATED: DECEMBER 4, 2018

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ADAMS Accession No.: ML18332A443

\*via e-mail

NRC-001

OFFICE	PM: DLSE/LB4	LA: DLSE/LB4	PM: NSIR/ DPCP/FCTSB	BC: DLSE/LB4	PM: DLSE/LB4
NAME	JHoellman (c)	RButler (c)	PHarris (c)	JDixon-Herrity (c)	JHoellman (s)
DATE	12/3/18	11/29/18	12/3/18	12/4/18	12/4/18

**OFFICIAL RECORD COPY**

**AGENDA FOR PUBLIC MEETING  
U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC)  
Thursday, November 1, 2018  
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 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.

**OPEN**

<u>Time</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Led By</u>
9:00 a.m.	Opening Remarks	NRC
9:05 a.m.	Discussion of draft Request for Exemption regarding Part 26 Visitor Access Requirements	NRC/SNC
10:00 a.m.	Opportunity for Public Comment	PUBLIC/NRC
10:00 a.m.	Adjourn	

Enclosure 1

**PUBLIC MEETING**  
**U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
**Thursday, November 1, 2018**  
**9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

**List of Attendees**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
<b>Representing the Nuclear Regulatory Commission</b>	
Jordan Hoellman	NRO/DLSE/LB4
Chandu Patel	NRO/DLSE/LB4
Paul Harris	NSIR/DPCP/FCTSB
Brian Zaleski	NSIR/DPCP/FCTSB
Niry Simonian	NSIR/DPCP/FCTSB
Randy Patterson *	RII/DRS/PSB
<b>Representing Industry</b>	
Corey Thomas	Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC)
Chuck Pierce *	SNC
Amy Aughtman *	SNC
Wes Sparkman *	SNC
Neil Haggerty	SNC
Kelli Roberts *	SNC
Amanda Pugh *	SNC
Lindsey Grissom *	SNC
Stephanie Agee *	SNC
Lee Doby *	SNC
<b>Representing Public</b>	
N/A	

\* = participated via teleconference

Enclosure 2

Vogtle Units 3 & 4 Mailing List  
cc:

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(Revised 08/16/2018)

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