



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

May 13, 2020

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

SUBJECT: EDWIN I. HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2 – TRANSMITTAL OF
DRAFT SAFETY EVALUATION FOR PROPOSED AMENDMENTS
RE: TRANSITION TO NFPA 805, "PERFORMANCE-BASED STANDARD FOR
FIRE PROTECTION FOR LIGHT WATER REACTOR ELECTRIC GENERATING
PLANTS" (EPID L-2019-LLA-0107)

Dear Ms. Gayheart:

By letter dated April 4, 2018 ((Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML18096A936), as supplemented by letters dated May 28, 2019, August 9, 2019, October 7, 2019, December 13, 2019, and February 5, 2020 (ADAMS Accession Nos. ML19151A444, ML19225D178, ML19280C812, ML19351D121, and ML20036F588, respectively), Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC, the licensee) submitted an application for license amendments to transition the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant (Hatch), Units 1 and 2, fire protection licensing basis from Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Sections 10 CFR 50.48(a) and (b), to 10 CFR 50.48(c), National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 805, "Performance-Based Standard for Fire Protection for Light Water Reactor Electric Generating Plants," 2001 Edition.

The licensee requested the amendments in order to establish and maintain a risk-informed, performance-based fire protection program in accordance with the requirements in 10 CFR 50.48(c).

Enclosed is the draft Safety Evaluation (SE) the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has prepared to support the license amendment request (LAR). Pursuant to 10 CFR 2.390, the NRC staff has made a preliminary determination that the enclosed draft SE does not contain sensitive unclassified non-safeguards information (SUNSI). The NRC staff requests that the licensee confirm that the draft does not contain any SUNSI information.

Enclosure 1 transmitted herewith may contain SUNSI. When separated from Enclosure 1, this document is decontrolled.

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The NRC staff requests that SNC provide comments regarding the factual accuracy, completeness, and SUNSI in the draft SE by May 20, 2020.

Since the NRC staff review is not yet complete, this letter and the enclosure do not convey or represent an NRC staff position regarding the LAR. Should the license amendments be approved, the NRC staff will issue a publicly available, non-SUNSI version of the amendment package.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-3100 or John.Lamb@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John G. Lamb, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-2
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-321 and 50-366

Enclosure:

- (1) Instructions for Review of Draft Safety Evaluation
- (2) Draft Safety Evaluation

cc w/o Enclosure: Distribution via Listserv

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***via email**

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