

July 27, 2020

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING CO.	)	Docket No. 52-025
	)	
(Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Unit 3)	)	

NOTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANT LICENSING ACTION

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff (Staff) hereby informs the Licensing Board and the participants that the Staff has provided the Commission with a Notification of Significant Licensing Action (NLSA) regarding the February 7, 2020, amendment application submitted by Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. (SNC).<sup>1</sup> The attached NLSA states that, on or about August 7, 2020, the Staff plans to issue a final no significant hazards consideration determination (NSHCD) and license amendment, with an associated exemption, in response to SNC's amendment application.

The Staff will notify the Licensing Board and participants upon issuance of the final NSHCD, amendment, and exemption, and provide ADAMS accession numbers for the issued documents.

Respectfully submitted,

**/Signed (electronically) by/**

Michael A. Spencer  
Counsel for NRC Staff  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Mail Stop O-14 A44  
Washington, DC 20555-0001  
(301) 287-9115  
Michael.Spencer@nrc.gov

Dated at Potomac, MD,  
this 27th day of July 2020

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from Brian H. Whitley, SNC, to NRC Document Control Desk (Feb. 7, 2020) (ADAMS Accession No. ML20038A939).

# **ATTACHMENT A**

Commission Notification of  
Significant Licensing Action



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

July 24, 2020

OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

NOTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANT LICENSING ACTION

LICENSEE: Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Unit 3  
Docket No. 52-025

SUBJECT: PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF A FINAL NO SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS  
CONSIDERATION DETERMINATION AND LICENSE AMENDMENT FOR  
WHICH A HEARING HAS BEEN REQUESTED

This memo informs the Commission that the staff will issue a final no significant hazards consideration determination (NSHCD) and license amendment, with an associated exemption, on or about August 7, 2020, to Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. The staff is taking this action in response to the licensee's amendment application dated February 7, 2020, (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML20038A939). The amendment will modify Facility Combined License No. NPF-91 for Vogtle Electric Generating Plant Unit 3 by changing the north-south minimum seismic gap requirement above grade between the nuclear island and the annex building west of Column Line I from elevation 141 feet through 154 feet to accommodate as-built localized nonconformances.

The Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League and its chapter Concerned Citizens of Shell Bluff (Petitioner) requested a hearing on the license amendment on May 11, 2020. The hearing request is pending before an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB). On July 1, 2020, the ASLB conducted an initial prehearing conference to hear oral arguments regarding the Petitioner's standing to intervene and the admissibility of the Petitioner's two proffered contentions.

The Office of the General Counsel (OGC) is informing the ASLB, the Petitioner, and the licensee that the staff plans to issue the final NSHCD, amendment, and exemption. Upon issuance, OGC will notify the ASLB, the Petitioner, and the licensee and provide them with ADAMS accession numbers for the issued documents.

The staff will also notify the State of Georgia of the issuance of the final NSHC determination, amendment, and exemption.

CONTACT: Cayetano Santos Jr., NRR/VPO  
301-415-7270

**NOTE: Information to be added after issuance of the amendment.**

Date amendment issued: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date received by licensee: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Petitioner notified: \_\_\_\_\_

PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF A FINAL NO SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS CONSIDERATION  
DETERMINATION AND LICENSE AMENDMENT REGARDING WHICH A HEARING HAS  
BEEN REQUESTED: DATED JULY 24, 2020

**DISTRIBUTION:**

NON-PUBLIC [draft]  
PUBLIC [after EDO concurs]  
Chairman Svinicki  
Commissioner Baran  
Commissioner Caputo  
Commissioner Wright  
Commissioner Hanson  
RidsACRS\_MailCTR Resource  
RidsEdoMailCenter Resource  
RidsNrrOd Resource  
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RidsOgcMailCenter Resource  
RidsOigMailCenter Resource  
RidsOpaMailCenter Resource  
RidsRgn2ailCenter Resource  
RidsSecyMailCenter Resource

**ADAMS Accession No.: ML20189A173 \*Via e-mail**

**EDO-002**

OFFICE	NRR/VPO:PM	NRR/VPO:LA	NRR/VPO:BC	NRR/VPO:D
NAME	CSantos (c)	RButler*	VHall*	MKing*
DATE	7/13/20	7/14/20	7/15/20	7/15/20
OFFICE	OGC/NLO	NRR/D	EDO	
NAME	MSpencer*	HNieh	MDoane	
DATE	7/15/20	7/ 22 /20	7 / 24 /20	

**OFFICIAL RECORD COPY**

July 27, 2020

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING CO.	)	Docket No. 52-025
	)	
(Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Unit 3)	)	

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the "Notification of Significant Licensing Action" has been filed through the E-Filing system this 27th day of July 2020.

**/Signed (electronically) by/**

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Counsel for NRC Staff  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Mail Stop O-14 A44  
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Dated at Potomac, MD,  
this 27th day of July 2020