



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION II
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE N.E., SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1200

March 2, 2022

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

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING
PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2 (REPORT 05000424/2021006 AND 05000425/2021006)

Dear Ms. Gayheart:

The NRC has completed its end-of-cycle performance assessment of Vogtle Electric Generating Plant Units 1 and 2, reviewing performance indicators (PIs), inspection results, and enforcement actions from January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility. The NRC concluded that overall performance at your facility preserved public health and safety. The baseline inspection program was completed at your facility as defined in Inspection Manual Chapter 2515, "Light-Water Reactor Inspection Program - Operations Phase."

The NRC determined the performance at Vogtle Electric Generating Plant Units 1 and 2 during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column, the highest performance category of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix, because all inspection findings had very low safety significance (i.e., Green), and all PIs were within the expected range (i.e., Green). Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct ROP baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through December 31, 2023. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the last twelve months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes.

In response to the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE), the NRC adjusted inspection plans and schedules in order to safeguard the health and safety of both NRC and licensee staff while still effectively implementing the ROP. While the PHE continues, overall conditions throughout the country support performance of our inspection and oversight activities to return to normal onsite presence by our resident and region-based inspectors and completion of nominal baseline inspection samples. We continue to monitor site-specific conditions and as discussed in our November 2, 2021 memo, "Implementation of Inspection Programs Following Re-Entry from the Public Health Emergency for the Reactor Safety Program" (ML21295A302),

it may be necessary to alter how and when we perform our inspection and oversight activities as we balance the importance of protecting the health and safety of our staff with the need to conduct effective oversight that supports the NRC's critical safety mission. For inspections requiring extensive coordination with offsite organizations, such as evaluated emergency preparedness exercises, NRC guidance and frequently asked questions for security and emergency preparedness can be found here: <https://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/covid-19/security-ep/>. Similarly, the NRC has developed guidance if force-on-force inspections cannot be completed as scheduled due to an emergency, such as the COVID-19 PHE. These changes help ensure the health and safety of both NRC and licensee staff while maintaining the NRC's important safety and security mission during the COVID-19 PHE. The attached inspection plan is accurate on the date of issuance but remains subject to change based on approval of potential exemption requests or other changes needed due to changing conditions in the COVID-19 PHE. NRC staff will contact your appropriate regulatory affairs staff in order to coordinate inspection planning and scheduling.

From May 21, 2020 – March 1, 2021 an investigation was conducted, by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Office of Investigations (OI) at Southern Nuclear Operating Company's (SNC) Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (Vogtle), Units 1 and 2. The purpose of the inspection and investigation was to determine whether a Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) deliberately failed to report a specific medication change. On January 4, 2022, the NRC issued a Severity Level III, Notice of Violation (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML22004A388) associated with Vogtle Electric Generating Plant Units 1 and 2, for failure to maintain complete and accurate medical qualification data for a senior operator in accordance with 10 CFR 50.9. Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct Inspection Procedure 92702, Follow-up on Traditional Enforcement Actions Including Violations, Deviations, Confirmatory Action Letters, Confirmatory Orders, and Alternative Dispute Resolution Confirmatory Orders, to follow-up on the violation.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact me at (404) 997-4415 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Alan J. Blamey, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 2
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 05000424 and 05000425
License Nos. NPF-68 and NPF-81

Enclosure:
Vogtle Inspection/ Activity Plan
(03/01/2022-12/31/2023)

cc: Distribution via ListServ

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PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2 (REPORT 05000424/2021006 AND 05000425/2021006)
DATED March 2, 2022

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OFFICE	RII: DRP	RII: DRP		
NAME	D. Mas Penaranda	A. Blamey		
DATE	03/01/2022	03/2/2022		

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Site Inspection Activity Plan

Vogle

03/01/2022 - 12/31/2023

Unit	Start	End	Activity	CAC	Title	Staff Count
UNIT 2 IN-SERVICE INSPECTION +SG						1
2	3/14/2022	3/25/2022	IP 71111.08P	000702	Inservice Inspection Activities (PWR)	
RP OCCUPATIONAL RAD SAFETY BASELINE INSPECTION						3
1,2	3/14/2022	3/18/2022	IP 71124.01	000725	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1,2	3/14/2022	3/18/2022	IP 71124.03	000727	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1,2	3/14/2022	3/18/2022	IP 71124.04	000728	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1,2	3/14/2022	3/18/2022	IP 71124.05	000729	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1,2	3/14/2022	3/18/2022	IP 71151	000746	Performance Indicator Verification	
1,2	3/28/2022	4/1/2022	IP 71124.01	000725	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1,2	3/28/2022	4/1/2022	IP 71124.03	000727	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1,2	3/28/2022	4/1/2022	IP 71124.04	000728	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1,2	3/28/2022	4/1/2022	IP 71124.05	000729	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1,2	3/28/2022	4/1/2022	IP 71151	000746	Performance Indicator Verification	
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE INSPECTION						5
1,2	5/16/2022	5/20/2022	IP 71114.01	000716	Exercise Evaluation	
1,2	5/16/2022	5/20/2022	IP 71114.04	000719	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1,2	5/16/2022	5/20/2022	IP 71151	001397	Performance Indicator Verification	
SECURITY BASELINE INSPECTION						3
1,2	6/6/2022	6/10/2022	IP 71130.02	000734	Access Control	
1,2	6/6/2022	6/10/2022	IP 71130.04	000736	Equipment Performance, Testing, and Maintenance	
1,2	6/6/2022	6/10/2022	IP 71130.07	000739	Security Training	
1,2	6/6/2022	6/10/2022	IP 71130.09	001656	Security Plan Changes	
1,2	6/6/2022	6/10/2022	IP 71151	001338	Performance Indicator Verification	
1,2	6/6/2022	6/10/2022	IP 81311	000831	Physical Security Requirements for Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installations	
CYBER SECURITY INSPECTION						2
1,2	6/27/2022	7/1/2022	IP 71130.10	000741	Cybersecurity	
FORCE-ON-FORCE PLANNING AND EXERCISE WEEKS - VOG						6
1,2	7/18/2022	7/22/2022	IP 71130.03	000735	Contingency Response - Force-On-Force Testing	
1,2	8/8/2022	8/12/2022	IP 71130.03	000735	Contingency Response - Force-On-Force Testing	
IP 92702 TRADITIONAL ENFORCEMENT FOLLOWUP						1
1,2	7/18/2022	7/22/2022	IP 92702	000238	Follow-Up on Traditional Enforcement Actions Including Violations, Deviations, Confirmatory Action Letters, and Orders	
DESIGN BASES ASSURANCE INSPECTION (TEAMS)						6

Site Inspection Activity Plan

1,2	10/3/2022	10/7/2022	IP 71111.21M	000713	Design Bases Assurance Inspection (Teams)	
1,2	10/17/2022	10/21/2022	IP 71111.21M	000713	Design Bases Assurance Inspection (Teams)	
UNIT 1 IN-SERVICE INSPECTION +SG						2
1	3/13/2023	3/17/2023	IP 71111.08P	000702	Inservice Inspection Activities (PWR)	
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM INSPECTION						2
1,2	4/10/2023	4/14/2023	IP 71114.02	000717	Alert and Notification System Testing	
1,2	4/10/2023	4/14/2023	IP 71114.03	000718	Emergency Response Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
1,2	4/10/2023	4/14/2023	IP 71114.04	000719	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1,2	4/10/2023	4/14/2023	IP 71114.05	000720	Maintenance of Emergency Preparedness	
1,2	4/10/2023	4/14/2023	IP 71151	001397	Performance Indicator Verification	
VOGTLE INITIAL LICENSE EXAM						6
1,2	3/27/2023	3/31/2023	OV	000956	FB-OR-ONSITE VALIDATION OF INITIAL LICENSE EXAMINATION (OV)	
1,2	5/1/2023	5/12/2023	EXAD	000500	FB-OR-INITIAL LICENSE EXAM ADMINISTRATION (EXAD)	
TARGET SET INSPECTION						2
1,2	5/29/2023	6/2/2023	IP 71130.14	000743	Review of Power Reactor Target Sets	
OPERATION ON AN ISFSI						2
1,2	6/12/2023	6/16/2023	IP 60855	001001	Operation Of An ISFSI	
VOGTLE 1 & 2 REQUAL INSPECTION						2
1,2	6/12/2023	6/16/2023	IP 71111.11B	000704	Licensed Operator Requalification Program and Licensed Operator Performance	
PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION & RESOLUTION						4
1,2	6/12/2023	6/16/2023	IP 71152B	000747	Problem Identification and Resolution	
1,2	6/26/2023	6/30/2023	IP 71152B	000747	Problem Identification and Resolution	
SECURITY BASELINE INSPECTION						1
1,2	7/10/2023	7/14/2023	IP 71130.02	000734	Access Control	
1,2	7/10/2023	7/14/2023	IP 71130.09	001656	Security Plan Changes	
1,2	7/10/2023	7/14/2023	IP 71151	001338	Performance Indicator Verification	
TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK PERFORMANCE						1
1,2	7/17/2023	7/21/2023	IP 71111.07SIX	000700	Heat Exchanger/Sink Performance	
1,2	7/17/2023	7/21/2023	IP 71111.07T	000700	Heat Exchanger/Sink Performance	
SNC CORPORATE AA/FFD INSPECTION						2
1,2	8/28/2023	9/1/2023	IP 71130.01	000733	Access Authorization	
1,2	8/28/2023	9/1/2023	IP 71130.08	000740	Fitness For Duty Program	
RP OCCUPATIONAL RADIATION SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION BASELINE						2
1,2	9/11/2023	9/15/2023	IP 71124.01	000725	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1,2	9/11/2023	9/15/2023	IP 71124.08	000732	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing & Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, & Transportation	

Site Inspection Activity Plan

1,2	9/11/2023	9/15/2023	IP 71151	000746	Performance Indicator Verification	
UNIT 2 IN-SERVICE INSPECTION +SG						2
2	9/18/2023	9/22/2023	IP 71111.08P	000702	Inservice Inspection Activities (PWR)	
SECURITY BASELINE INSPECTION						1
1,2	10/23/2023	10/27/2023	IP 71130.01	000733	Access Authorization	
1,2	10/23/2023	10/27/2023	IP 71130.08	000740	Fitness For Duty Program	
TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION INSPECTION						4
1,2	11/27/2023	12/1/2023	IP 71111.21N.05	001646	Fire Protection Team Inspection (FPTI)	
1,2	12/11/2023	12/15/2023	IP 71111.21N.05	001646	Fire Protection Team Inspection (FPTI)	

Site Inspection Activity Plan

Vogle ISFSI

03/01/2022 - 12/31/2023

Unit	Start	End	Activity	CAC	Title	Staff Count
SECURITY BASELINE INSPECTION (ISFSI)						3
	6/6/2022	6/10/2022	IP 81311	001006	Physical Security Requirements for Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installations	