



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION II  
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

September 1, 2011

Mr. Dennis R. Madison  
Vice President  
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant  
11028 Hatch Parkway North  
Baxley, GA 31513

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR EDWIN I. HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT  
UNITS 1 AND 2 (REPORT 05000321/2011006 AND 05000366/2011006)

Dear Mr. Madison:

On August 9, 2011, the NRC completed its mid-cycle performance review of Edwin I. Hatch Units 1 and 2. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility. This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include security information. A separate letter will include the NRC's assessment of your performance in the Security Cornerstone and its security-related inspection plan.

The NRC determined the performance at Hatch Units 1 and 2 during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix because all inspection findings had very low (i.e., Green) safety significance, and all PIs indicated that your performance was within the nominal, 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, 2012. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle performance review. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes. In addition to ROP baseline inspection activities, we also plan on conducting Temporary Instruction (TI) 2515/177 "Managing Gas Accumulation in Emergency Core Cooling, Decay Heat Removal, and Containment Spray Systems," and Initial Operator License Examinations.

In the days following the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear accident in Japan, the Commission directed the staff to establish a senior-level agency task force to conduct a methodical and systematic review of the NRC's processes and regulations to determine whether the agency should make additional improvements to its regulatory system. The NRC has since completed TI-183,

“Follow-up to Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Station Fuel Damage Event,” and TI-184, “Availability and Readiness Inspection of Severe Accident Management Guidelines (SAMGs)” at your facility. Results of these inspections can be found here: <http://www.nrc.gov/japan/japan-activities.html>. Additionally, on May 11, 2011, the agency issued NRC Bulletin 2011-01, “Mitigating Strategies,” to confirm compliance with Order EA-02-026, subsequently imposed license conditions, and 10 CFR 50.54(hh)(2), and to determine the status of licensee mitigating strategies programs. On July 12, 2011, the NRC’s Task Force made its recommendations to the Commission in its report, “Recommendations for Enhancing Reactor Safety in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: The Near-Term Task Force Review of Insights from the Fukushima Daiichi Accident.” The Commission is currently reviewing the Task Force’s recommendations to determine whether additional actions may be warranted.

In accordance with 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) 997-4548 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

James Hickey, Acting Chief  
Projects Branch 2  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-321, 50-366  
License Nos.: DPR-57, NPF-5

Enclosure: Hatch Inspection/Activity Plan (09/01/2011 – 12/31/2012)

cc w/encl: (See page 3)

cc w/encl:

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(cc w/encl continued next page)

(cc w/encl continued)

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**Hatch**  
**Inspection / Activity Plan**  
**09/01/2011 - 12/31/2012**

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
			<b>PI&amp;R - PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION AND RESOLUTION</b>		<b>5</b>
1, 2	09/12/2011	09/16/2011	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	
1, 2	09/26/2011	09/30/2011	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	
			<b>PSB1EP - EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE</b>		<b>5</b>
1, 2	10/31/2011	11/04/2011	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation	
1, 2	10/31/2011	11/04/2011	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1, 2	10/31/2011	11/04/2011	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			<b>PSB1-RP - PUBLIC RADIATION PROTECTION BASELINE</b>		<b>4</b>
1, 2	01/09/2012	01/13/2012	IP 71124.06	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
1, 2	01/09/2012	01/13/2012	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	
1, 2	01/09/2012	01/13/2012	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			<b>7111108 - HATCH U1 ISI</b>		<b>1</b>
1, 2	02/20/2012	02/24/2012	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR	
			<b>LR71003 - PHASE 1: POST APPROVAL LIC RENEWAL</b>		<b>2</b>
1	02/27/2012	03/02/2012	IP 71003	Post-Approval Site Inspection for License Renewal	
			<b>PSB1-RP - RADIOLOGICAL HAZARDS ASSESEMENT</b>		<b>1</b>
1, 2	02/27/2012	03/02/2012	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
			<b>TI-177 - TI-177</b>		<b>3</b>
1, 2	04/02/2012	04/06/2012	IP 2515/177	Managing Gas Accumulation In Emergency Core Cooling, Decay Heat Removal & Containment Spray System	
			<b>OL EXAM - INITIAL EXAM PREP</b>		<b>3</b>
1	05/28/2012	06/01/2012	V23374	HATCH / JUNE 2012 EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	
			<b>CDBI - COMPONENT DESIGN BASES INSPECTION</b>		<b>6</b>
1, 2	06/04/2012	06/08/2012	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1, 2	06/25/2012	06/29/2012	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1, 2	07/09/2012	07/13/2012	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1, 2	07/23/2012	07/27/2012	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
			<b>OL EXAM - INITIAL EXAM - WEEK 1</b>		<b>3</b>
1	06/18/2012	06/22/2012	V23374	HATCH / JUNE 2012 EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	
			<b>OL EXAM - INITIAL EXAM - WEEK 2</b>		<b>3</b>
1	06/25/2012	06/29/2012	V23374	HATCH / JUNE 2012 EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	
			<b>OL RQ - REQUAL INSPECTION</b>		<b>2</b>
1, 2	09/17/2012	09/21/2012	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program	
			<b>PSB1EP - EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS INSPECTION</b>		<b>1</b>
1, 2	11/26/2012	11/30/2012	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing	

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.  
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

Enclosure

**Hatch**  
**Inspection / Activity Plan**  
**09/01/2011 - 12/31/2012**

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
<b>PSB1EP - EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS INSPECTION</b>					<b>1</b>
1, 2	11/26/2012	11/30/2012	IP 7111403	Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
1, 2	11/26/2012	11/30/2012	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1, 2	11/26/2012	11/30/2012	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	
1, 2	11/26/2012	11/30/2012	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.  
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

Enclosure