September 4, 2012

Mr. Tom E. Tynan  
Vice President  
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant  
7821 River Road  
Waynesboro, GA 30830

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN – VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT (NRC INSPECTION REPORT 05000424, 425/2012006)

Dear Mr. Tynan:

On August 14, 2012, the NRC completed its mid-cycle performance review of Vogtle Electric Generating Plant. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012. 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 assessment reflects the integration of the Security Cornerstone into the IMC 0305, “Reactor Oversight Process.” ROP performance assessment program governed by IMC 0305, “Operating Reactor Assessment Program.”

The NRC determined the performance at Vogtle Unit 1 and Unit 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, 2013. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. In addition to the baseline inspections, consistent with the Agency’s actions related to Fukushima, the NRC will perform TI-187, “Inspection of Near-Term Task Force Recommendation 2.3 Flooding Walkdowns” and TI-188 “Inspection of Near-Term Task Force Recommendation 2.3 Seismic Walkdowns.” The NRC also plans to conduct Initial Operator License Examinations, and TI-182 “Review of the Implementation of the Industry Initiative to Control Degradation of Underground Piping and Tanks.” 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. This inspection plan does not include security related inspections, which will be sent via separate, non-publicly available correspondence.
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) 997-4611 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Frank Ehrhardt, Chief
Projects Branch 2
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-424, 50-425
License Nos.: NPF-68, NPF-81

Enclosure: Vogtle Inspection/Activity Plan (09/01/2012 – 12/31/2013)

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This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.
### Vogtle
#### Inspection / Activity Plan

**09/01/2012 - 12/31/2013**

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