



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

September 4, 2012

Mr. B. L. Ivey
Vice President, Regulatory Affairs
Southern Nuclear Operating Company
P.O. Box 1295
Bin B022
Birmingham, AL 35201

**SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING
PLANT UNITS 3 AND 4 (NRC INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 05200025/2012007
AND 05200026/2012007)**

Dear Mr. Ivey:

On August 9, 2012, the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed its mid-cycle performance review of Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) Units 3 and 4. The NRC reviewed the most recent inspection results and enforcement actions from January 1, 2012, 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.

The NRC determined the performance at VEGP Units 3 and 4 during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Construction Reactor Oversight Process (cROP) Action Matrix because all inspection findings had very low (i.e., green) safety significance. Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct cROP baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through December 31, 2012. Routine inspections performed by construction resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed are tentative and may be revised based on construction activities occurring at the site. 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 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).

B. Ivey

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Please contact me at (404) 997-4540 with any questions you have regarding this letter or inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Michael E. Ernstes, Chief
Construction Project Branch 4
Division of Construction Projects

Docket Nos.: 52-00011, 52-00025, 52-00026
License Nos.: NPF-91, NPF-92

Enclosure:
Vogle Inspection Plan

cc w/encl.: (See next page

B. Ivey

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Vogtle Inspection Plan

cc w/encl.: (See next page)

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ADAMS: Yes ACCESSION NUMBER: ML12243A503 SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE FORM 665 ATTACHED

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SIGNATURE	JK	GK					
NAME	J. Kent	G. Khouri					
DATE	8/21/12	8/23/12					
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cc w/encl:

Office of Attorney General
Law Department
132 Judicial Building
Atlanta, GA 30312

Resident Manager
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Alvin W. Vogtle Nuclear Plant
7821 River Road
Waynesboro, GA 30830

Lucious Abram
Commissioner -
Burke's County Commissioner
P. O. Box 1626
Waynesboro, GA 30830

Anne F. Appleby
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
2100 East Exchange Place
Tucker, GA 30084

Ms. Michele Boyd
Legislative Director
Energy Program
Public Citizens Critical Mass Energy
and Environmental Program
215 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20003

County Commissioner
Office of the County Commissioner
Burke County Commission
Waynesboro, GA 30830

Director
Consumer's Utility
Counsel Division
Governor's Office of Consumer Affairs
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
Plaza Level East, Suite 356
Atlanta, GA 30334-4600

Mr. James C. Hardeman
Environmental Radiation Program Manager
Environmental Protection Division
Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources
4220 International Pkwy, Suite 100
Atlanta, GA 30354-3906

Lisa Higdon
Southern Nuclear Op. Co.
Document Control Coordinator
42 Inverness Center parkway
Attn: B236
Birmingham, AL 35242

Rita Kilpatrick
250 Arizona Ave.
Atlanta, GA 30307

Stephen E. Kuczynski
Chairman, President and CEO
Southern Nuclear
P.O. Box 1295
Birmingham, AL 35201

Mr. Reece McAlister
Executive Secretary
Georgia Public Service Commission
Atlanta, GA 30334

Mr. Joseph A. (Buzz) Miller
Executive Vice President
Southern Nuclear Operating Company
241 Ralph McGill Blvd.
BIN 10240
Atlanta, GA 30308-3374

Resident Inspector
Vogtle Plant
8805 River Road
Waynesboro, GA 30830

Elaine Sikes
Burke County Library
130 Highway 24 South
Waynesboro, GA 30830

Mr. Jerry Smith
Commissioner
District 8
Augusta-Richmond County Commission
1332 Brown Road
Hephzibah, GA 30815

Gene Stilp
1550 Fishing Creek Valley Road
Harrisburg, PA 17112

Mr. Robert E. Sweeney
IBEX ESI
4641 Montgomery Avenue
Suite 350
Bethesda, MD 20814

George B. Taylor, Jr.
2100 East Exchange Pl
Atlanta, GA 30084-5336

Email

agaughtm@southernco.com (Amy Aughtman)
agbaker@southernco.com (Ann Baker)
anfauk@southernco.com (Nicole Faulk)
APH@NEI.org (Adrian Heymer)
awc@nei.org (Anne W. Cottingham)
Bill.Jacobs@gdsassociates.com (Bill Jacobs)
blivey@southernco.com (Pete Ivey)
bob.masse@opc.com (Resident Manager)
bobbie@wand.org (Bobbie Paul)
BrinkmCB@westinghouse.com (Charles Brinkman)
bwwaites@southernco.com (Brandon Waites)
chmahan@southernco.com (Howard Mahan)
crpierce@southernco.com (C.R. Pierce)
cwaltman@roe.com (C. Waltman)
dahjones@southernco.com (David Jones)
danawill@southernco.com (Dana Williams)
david.hinds@ge.com (David Hinds)
david.lewis@pillsburylaw.com (David Lewis)
david.siefken@hq.doe.gov (David Siefken)
dlfulton@southernco.com (Dale Fulton)
ed.burns@earthlink.net (Ed Burns)
edavis@pegasusgroup.us (Ed David)
enweathe@southernco.com (Beth Thomas)
erg-xl@cox.net (Eddie R. Grant)
G2NDRMDC@southernco.com (SNC Document Control)
james1.beard@ge.com (James Beard)
jamiller@southernco.com (Buzz Miller)
jbtomase@southernco.com (Janice Tomasello)
jenmorri@southernco.com (Jennifer Buettner)
jim@ncwarn.org (Jim Warren)
Joseph_Hegner@dom.com (Joseph Hegner)
jrjohnso@southernco.com (Randy Johnson)
jtdavis@southernco.com (Jim Davis)
jtgasser@southernco.com (Jeffrey Gasser)
karen.patterson@ttnus.com (Karen Patterson)
kasslc@westinghouse.com (Leslie Kass)
kim.haynes@opc.com (Kim Haynes)
KSutton@morganlewis.com (Kathryn M. Sutton)
kwaugh@impact-net.org (Kenneth O. Waugh)
lchandler@morganlewis.com (Lawrence J. Chandler)
ldperry@southernco.com (Leigh D. Perry)
maria.webb@pillsburylaw.com (Maria Webb)
mark.beaumont@wsms.com (Mark Beaumont)
markus.popa@hq.doe.gov (Markus Popa)

Email cont'd:

matias.travieso-diaz@pillsburylaw.com (Matias Travieso-Diaz)
mdrauckh@southernco.com (Mark Rauckhorst)
media@nei.org (Scott Peterson)
mike.price@opc.com (M.W. Price)
MSF@nei.org (Marvin Fertel)
nirsnet@nirs.org (Michael Mariotte)
nlhender@southernco.com (Nancy Henderson)
Nuclaw@mindspring.com (Robert Temple)
patriciaL.campbell@ge.com (Patricia L. Campbell)
Paul@beyondnuclear.org (Paul Gunter)
pbessette@morganlewis.com (Paul Bessette)
rhenry@ap.org (Ray Henry)
RJB@NEI.org (Russell Bell)
sabinski@suddenlink.net (Steve A. Bennett)
sblanton@balch.com (Stanford Blanton)
sfrantz@morganlewis.com (Stephen P. Frantz)
sjackson@meagpower.org (Steven Jackson)
skauffman@mpr.com (Storm Kauffman)
sroetger@psc.state.ga.us (Steve Roetger)
stephan.moen@ge.com (Stephan Moen)
taterrel@southernco.com (Todd Terrell)
tcmoorer@southernco.com (Thomas Moorer)
tlubnow@mpr.com (Tom Lubnow)
Tom.Bilik@nrc.gov (Thomas Bilik)
tomccall@southernco.com (Tom McCallum)
TomClements329@cs.com (Tom Clements)
Vanessa.quinn@dhs.gov (Vanessa Quinn)
Wanda.K.Marshall@dom.com (Wanda K. Marshall)
wasparkm@southernco.com (Wesley A. Sparkman)
whelmore@aol.com (Bill Elmore)

Letter to B. L. Ivey from Michael E. Ernstes, dated September 4, 2012

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PLANT UNITS 3 AND 4 (NRC INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 05200025/2012007
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Distribution w/encl:

ROAssessment Resource

NRO_cROP Resource

M. Brown, NRO

R. Joshi, NRO

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Vogle Inspection Plan

Programmatic Inspections (IMC 2504)	
Est. Date	Description
3Q 2012	Construction QA Semiannual Implementation
4Q2012	Fitness For Duty

ITAAC Inspections (IMC 2503)	
Est. Date	Description
2012	<p>The majority of Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria (ITAAC) related inspections, in 2012, are expected to be associated with the following construction and fabrication activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Foundation and waterproof membrane installation 2. Containment vessel fabrication 3. Nuclear Island construction 4. Structural and mechanical module fabrication <p>The NRC staff will also inspect miscellaneous ITAAC and Design Acceptance Criteria activities (e.g. Protection and Safety Monitoring System and Human Factors Engineering development, type tests, and other ITAAC related work on site and at vendor facilities).</p>
3Q-4Q 2012	<p>Rebar Work Associated with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NI • Unit 3 Containment Vessel • CR-10
3Q-4Q 2012	Unit 4 Waterproofing Membrane Installation
3Q-4Q 2012	Submodule Fabrication in the MAB
3Q-4Q 2012	Unit 3 & 4 CV Fabrication
4Q 2012	NI Basemat Pour
4Q 2012	Reactor Pressure Vessel Receipt Inspection