



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 10, 2000

Mr. J. B. Beasley, Jr.
Vice President
Southern Nuclear Operating
Company, Inc.
Post Office Box 1295
Birmingham, Alabama 35201-1295

SUBJECT: VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 RE: ISSUANCE
OF AMENDMENTS (TAC NOS. MA6507 AND MA6508)

Dear Mr. Beasley:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 113 to Facility Operating License NPF-68 and Amendment No. 91 to Facility Operating License NPF-81 for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2. The amendments consist of changes to the Technical Specifications in response to your application dated August 30, 1999.

The amendments revise Technical Specifications 5.2.2, "Unit Staff", to raise the level of the approval authority for deviations above the guidelines provided to minimize unit staff overtime. Specifically, the amendments change the level of overtime approval authority from "department superintendent" to "department manager."

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. A Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's biweekly *Federal Register* notice.

Sincerely,

Ramin Assa, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-424 and 50-425

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 113 to NPF-68
2. Amendment No. 91 to NPF-81
3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

August 10, 2000

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Vice President
Southern Nuclear Operating
Company, Inc.
Post Office Box 1295
Birmingham, Alabama 35201

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SUBJECT: VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 - ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENTS RE: (TAC NOS. MA6507 AND MA6508)

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/RA/
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cc w/encls: See next page

DOCUMENT NAME: G:\PDII-1\VOGTLE\MA6507-AMD.wpd

*See Previous Concurrence

OFFICE	PDII-1/PM	PDII-1/LA	DIPM-IOLB*	OGC	PDII-1/SC
NAME	RAssa:mw <i>RA</i>	CHawes <i>CH</i>	REckenrode	<i>WMA/ALC</i>	REmch <i>RE</i>
DATE	6/29/00	7/6/00	07/24/00	7/28/00	8/8/00

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY



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

SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY, INC.

GEORGIA POWER COMPANY

OGLETHORPE POWER CORPORATION

MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC AUTHORITY OF GEORGIA

CITY OF DALTON, GEORGIA

VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT, UNIT 1

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 113
License No. NPF-68

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment to the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Unit 1 (the facility) Facility Operating License No. NPF-68 filed by the Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. (Southern Nuclear), acting for itself, Georgia Power Company, Oglethorpe Power Corporation, Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia, and City of Dalton, Georgia (the licensees), dated August 30, 1999, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations as set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

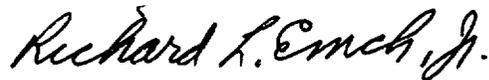
2. Accordingly, the license is hereby amended by page changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-68 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Technical Specifications and Environmental Protection Plan

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 113, and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, both of which are attached hereto, are hereby incorporated into this license. Southern Nuclear shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Richard L. Emch, Jr., Chief, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:
Technical Specification
Changes

Date of Issuance: August 10, 2000



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
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SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY, INC.

GEORGIA POWER COMPANY

OGLETHORPE POWER CORPORATION

MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC AUTHORITY OF GEORGIA

CITY OF DALTON, GEORGIA

VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT, UNIT 2

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 91
License No. NPF-81

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment to the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Unit 2 (the facility) Facility Operating License No. NPF-81 filed by the Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. (Southern Nuclear), acting for itself, Georgia Power Company, Oglethorpe Power Corporation, Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia, and City of Dalton, Georgia (the licensees), dated August 30, 1999, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations as set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

2. Accordingly, the license is hereby amended by page changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-81 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Technical Specifications and Environmental Protection Plan

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 91 , and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, both of which are attached hereto, are hereby incorporated into this license. Southern Nuclear shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Richard L. Emch, Jr., Chief, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:
Technical Specification
Changes

Date of Issuance: August 10, 2000

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 113

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-68

DOCKET NO. 50-424

AND

TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 91

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-81

DOCKET NO. 50-425

Replace the following pages of the Appendix A Technical Specifications with the attached revised pages. The revised pages are identified by amendment number and contain marginal lines indicating the areas of change.

Remove

5.2-3

Insert

5.2-3

5.2 Organization

5.2.2 Unit Staff (continued)

event that unforeseen problems require substantial amounts of overtime to be used, or during extended periods of shutdown for refueling, major maintenance, or major plant modification, on a temporary basis the following guidelines shall be followed:

1. An individual should not be permitted to work more than 16 hours straight, excluding shift turnover time;
2. An individual should not be permitted to work more than 16 hours in any 24 hour period, nor more than 24 hours in any 48 hour period, nor more than 72 hours in any 7 day period, all excluding shift turnover time;
3. A break of at least 8 hours should be allowed between work periods, including shift turnover time;
4. Except during extended shutdown periods, the use of overtime should be considered on an individual basis and not for the entire staff on a shift.

Any deviation from the above guidelines shall be authorized by the applicable department manager or higher levels of management, in accordance with established procedures and with documentation of the basis for granting the deviation.

Controls shall be included in the procedures such that individual excess overtime shall be reviewed monthly by the General Manager - Nuclear Plant or his designee to assure that excessive hours were authorized and that they do not become routine.

- f. The Operations Manager shall hold an SRO license.
- g. An individual shall be assigned to each shift who provides technical support in the areas of thermal hydraulics, reactor engineering, and plant analysis with regard to the safe operation of the unit. In addition, this individual shall meet the qualifications specified by the Commission Policy Statement on Engineering Expertise on Shift. This position may also be filled by the Shift Superintendent or

(continued)



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 113 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-68
AND AMENDMENT NO. 91 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-81
SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY, INC., ET AL.
VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2
DOCKET NOS. 50-424 AND 50-425

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated August 30, 1999, Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc., et al. (the licensee) proposed license amendments to change the Technical Specifications (TS) for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (Vogtle, VEGP), Units 1 and 2. The proposed changes would revise TS 5.2.2, "Unit Staff", to change the level of authority for approving working hours in excess of the guidelines provided to minimize unit staff overtime. This change specifically raises the level of approval authority from "department superintendent" to "department manager".

The licensee requested approval of this TS change to enhance the assurance that plant personnel's effectiveness will not be adversely impacted by excessive overtime.

2.0 BACKGROUND

TS 5.2.2 requires that any deviations from the overtime guidelines shall be authorized by the applicable department superintendent or higher levels of management, in accordance with established procedures and with documentation of the basis for granting the deviation. This authority was stated in the original Vogtle TSs issued as NURG-1343, February 1989. The approval authority was later carried forward as a part of the improved Technical Specifications effort and was subsequently included in the current improved TSs. The purpose of this TS is to ensure that overtime use does not exceed the guidance in NUREG-0737, Item I.A.1.3, "Shift Manning," as revised by Generic Letter (GL) 82-12, "Nuclear Power Plant Staff Working Hours," and to ensure that the working hours in excess of the guidelines are authorized by a manager who has functional responsibilities as specified in the VEGP - Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR), Table 13.1.3-1.

In the original Vogtle organization individuals with department manager responsibilities were titled "department superintendent." However, after several organizational changes the titles of "superintendent" and "manager" were used to define the similar functional responsibilities in different departments. For example, in Vogtle's Supplemental Safety Evaluation Report, NUREG-1137, Supplement No. 4, December 1986, the title of "superintendent-operation" was changed to "manager-operations" and the previous "superintendent-maintenance" was changed to "maintenance superintendent." However, the job functions and qualifications of these two

titles remained similar. The purpose of this amendment is to adopt a title consistent with the guidance provided in GL 82-12 for authorizing working hours in excess of TS requirements.

3.0 EVALUATION

Limits on working hours for plant personnel who perform safety related functions should conform to the guidance provided in the Commission's "Policy on Factors Causing Fatigue of Operating Personnel at Nuclear Reactors." This policy was disseminated via GL 82-12 which requested that licensees amend the administrative section of their TS to assure that plant administrative guidelines follow the guidance of the Commission policy statement. The policy states that sufficient plant operating personnel should be employed to maintain shift coverage without the routine heavy use of overtime. The policy, also states that working hours in excess of the guidelines shall be authorized by the plant manager or his deputy, or higher levels of management.

American National Standards Institute (ANSI) N18.1-1971 defines the responsibilities and qualifications of a "manager" (i.e. "Positions at the functional level of manager are those to which are assigned broad responsibilities for direction of major aspects of a nuclear plant.") Vogtle's FSAR commits to ANSI N18.1 standard and Table 13.1.3.3 provides a comparison of Vogtle's management titles and those in the ANSI standard. Therefore, the staff finds that Vogtle's "department manager" possesses similar qualifications, training and responsibilities as those stipulated in GL 82-12. Furthermore, the proposed change is consistent with the intent of Vogtle's licensing basis, it places greater scrutiny on the amount of overtime being utilized to perform safety related functions, and it raises the current administrative level of management approval required for overtime in excess of the limits outlined in the TS.

Based on the above analysis, the staff finds that changing the approval authority from "department superintendent" to "department manager" in TS 5.2.2, to be acceptable. It is the NRC staff's understanding that individuals (department managers) authorized to approve working hours in excess of the TS requirements, regardless of their title, will be at the manager level as defined in ANSI N18.1-1971 Section 4.2.

4.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Georgia State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendments. The State official had no comments.

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

This amendment changes recordkeeping, reporting, and administrative procedures or requirements. Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(10). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

6.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by

operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendments will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: R. Assa

Date: August 10, 2000

Vogtle Electric Generating Plant

cc:

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