May 31, 2001

Mr. Lewis Sumner, Vice President Hatch Project Support Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. 40 Inverness Parkway P.O. Box 1295 Birmingham, AL 35201

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL PLANT-SPECIFIC SUPPLEMENT 4

TO THE GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (GEIS)

REGARDING THE EDWIN I. HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT (HNP), UNITS 1 AND 2

Dear Mr. Sumner:

Enclosed is a copy of the *Federal Register* notice of availability of the final plant-specific Supplement 4 to the GEIS, NUREG-1437, regarding the renewal of operating licenses DPR-57 and NPF-5 for HNP, Units 1 and 2, for an additional 20 years of operation. The notice advises the public that the final report is available electronically for public inspection in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the NRC Environmental Project Manager, Mr. Andrew J. Kugler, at (301) 415-2828.

Sincerely,

/RA/ Signed by D. Matthews

David B. Matthews, Director Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-321, 50-366

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/ encl: See next page

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKET NOS. 50-321 AND 50-366

SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY, INC.

EDWIN I. HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL SUPPLEMENT 4 TO THE GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT REGARDING LICENSE RENEWAL

FOR THE EDWIN I. HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2

Notice is hereby given that the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the NRC) has published a final plant-specific Supplement 4 to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS), NUREG-1437, regarding the renewal of operating licenses DPR-57 and NPF-5 for the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant (HNP), Units 1 and 2, for an additional 20 years of operation. The HNP units are operated by the Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. (SNC). HNP is located in Appling County, Georgia. Possible alternatives to the proposed action (license renewal) include no action and reasonable alternative methods of power generation.

In Section 9.3 of the report:

The staff recommends that the Commission determine that the adverse environmental impacts of license renewal for HNP, Units 1 and 2 are not so great that preserving the option of license renewal for energy planning decisionmakers would be unreasonable. This recommendation is based on (1) the analysis and findings in the *Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Power Plants*, NUREG-1437;

(2) the ER [Environmental Report] submitted by SNC; (3) consultation with other Federal, State, and local agencies; (4) the staff's own independent review; and (5) the staff's consideration of public comments.

The final Supplement 4 to the GEIS is available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland, or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document management system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Mr. Andrew J. Kugler, Generic Issues, Environmental, Financial, and Rulemaking Branch, Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555. Mr. Kugler may be contacted at (301) 415-2828 or by writing to: Andrew J. Kugler, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, MS 0-11 F1, Washington, DC 20555.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 31 day of May, 2001.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/ Signed by D. Matthews

David B. Matthews, Director
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Southern Nuclear Operating Company Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant Units 1 and 2

CC:

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Docket Nos.: 50-321, 50-366

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Merriam A. Bass M.K. Pentecost Ecology Trust Fund 3590 Darien Highway, Suite 8 Brunswick, GA 31525 Mr. Lewis Sumner, Vice President Hatch Project Support Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. 40 Inverness Parkway P.O. Box 1295 Birmingham, AL 35201

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Sincerely,

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David B. Matthews, Director Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Enclosure: As stated cc w/ encl: See next page

Letter & Encl(s) Accession No.: ML011200297

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