

June 6, 2001

Mr. Lewis Sumner, Vice President
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40 Inverness Parkway
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SUBJECT: FINAL SUPPLEMENT 4 TO THE GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (GEIS) REGARDING THE EDWIN I. HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2

Dear Mr. Sumner:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed the plant-specific Supplement 4 to NUREG-1437, "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Power Plants," (GEIS). Supplement 4 addresses 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). Enclosed is a copy of the report.

As discussed in Section 9.3 of this 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.

A notice of filing of the Final Environmental Impact Statement will be placed in the Federal Register through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency by June 15, 2001. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call me at (301) 415-2828.

Sincerely,

/RA/ Signed by A. Kugler

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-321, 50-366
Enclosure: As stated
cc w/o encl: See next page

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

Docket Nos.: 50-321, 50-366

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***Accession No.: ML011580224
Template NRR-106***

Enclosure: As stated
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DOCUMENT NAME:G:\rgeb\hatch\FSEIS\correspondence\Hatch FSEIS transmittl ltr SNC.wpd

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