

April 2, 2002

LICENSEE: SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY

FACILITY: EDWIN I. HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH SOUTHERN NUCLEAR TO DISCUSS HATCH AMENDMENT
REQUEST TO EXTEND COMPLETION TIMES FOR INOPERABLE
EMERGENCY DIESEL GENERATORS (TAC NOS. MB2886 AND MB2887)

On March 8, 2002, members of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Southern Nuclear Operating Company (the licensee) met in Rockville, Maryland to discuss the August 31, 2001, amendment request to extend the completion times for inoperable emergency diesel generators (EDGs) for Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2. A list of attendees is provided in the attachment. The handouts provided by the licensee during the meeting are accessible electronically from the Agencywide Documents and Management System (ADAMS) Public NRC website, <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/html> under accession number ML020700545. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, should contact the NRC PDR Reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov.

The August 31, 2001, submittal requested amendments to the Technical Specifications (TS) that would allow extension of the completion times for the required actions associated with inoperable EDGs from 7 days to 14 days for the swing EDG and from 3 days to 14 days for the other four EDGs. The licensee requested the amendments so that preventive maintenance of the EDGs could be performed during power operation rather than during refueling outages (this could result in shorter refueling outages) and to reduce the need for emergency TS changes that could arise when an EDG become inoperable.

The licensee stated that the evaluation performed to support its August 31, 2001, submittal used the approach described in Regulatory Guides (RG) 1.174 and 1.177. The licensee stated that the Hatch risk management process includes the key elements of RG 1.177 and is based on Section (a)(4) of 10 CFR 50.65, "Requirements for monitoring the effectiveness of maintenance at nuclear power plants."

The licensee discussed its risk management program which would limit the other equipment that could be out of service during the times when an EDGs is inoperable. This program could result in a plant shutdown if the risk associated with out-of-service equipment was determined to be too high.

The staff noted that the Core Damage Frequency (CDF) and Large Early Release Frequency (LERF) results presented in the August 31, 2001, satisfied the guidance in RG 1.174. Furthermore, the Incremental Conditional Core Damage Probability (ICCDP) satisfied the guidance in RG 1.177, but the Incremental Conditional Large Early Release Probability (ICLERP) exceeded the guidance in RG 1.177. The licensee stated that ICLERP exceeded the RG 1.177 guidance because of conservatism in the calculations, rather than because of the

design of the plant. The licensee performed an engineering estimate for the C EDG (the most limiting EDG) using more realistic assumptions for battery power time, time to core uncover and time to vessel failure. This estimate resulted in an ICLERP of approximately 7E-08; the guidance in RG 1.177 indicates an ICLERP of 5.0E-08. The ICLERP presented in the August 31, 2001, submittal was 1.15E-07. The licensee stated that this estimate is conservative due to the modeling of the switchyard and that a more realistic modeling of the switchyard would result in lower values of ICLERP. The licensee committed to send in a letter by March 15, 2002, documenting the results of this estimate and similar estimates for the other EDGs.

/RA/

Leonard N. Olshan, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-321 and 50-366

Enclosure: As stated

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DATE	4/1/02	4/1/02	4/2/02

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ATTENDEES LIST

MARCH 08, 2002

MEETING TO DISCUSS HATCH AMENDMENT REQUEST TO EXTEND COMPLETION

TIMES FROM INOPERABLE EMERGENCY DIESEL GENERATORS

NRC

H. Berkow
L. Olshan
M. Reinhart
J. Schiffgens
M. Wohl
E. Ingram
T. Moore
O. Vidal

SOUTHERN NUCLEAR

J. Anderson
R. Bunt
W. Burns
D. Crowe
K. Fry

OTHER

J. Lin, ABSG Consulting, Inc.
D. Pendry, Excel Services Corp.

Enclosure

Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant

cc:

Mr. Ernest L. Blake, Jr.
Shaw, Pittman, Potts
and Trowbridge
2300 N Street, NW.
Washington, DC 20037

Mr. D. M. Crowe
Manager, Licensing
Southern Nuclear Operating
Company, Inc.
P. O. Box 1295
Birmingham, Alabama 35201-1295

Resident Inspector
Plant Hatch
11030 Hatch Parkway N.
Baxley, Georgia 31531

Mr. Charles H. Badger
Office of Planning and Budget
Room 610
270 Washington Street, SW.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Harold Reheis, Director
Department of Natural Resources
205 Butler Street, SE., Suite 1252
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Steven M. Jackson
Senior Engineer - Power Supply
Municipal Electric Authority
of Georgia
1470 Riveredge Parkway, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30328-4684

Charles A. Patrizia, Esquire
Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker
10th Floor
1299 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20004-9500

Chairman
Appling County Commissioners
County Courthouse
Baxley, Georgia 31513

Mr. J. D. Woodard
Executive Vice President
Southern Nuclear Operating
Company, Inc.
P. O. Box 1295
Birmingham, Alabama 35201-1295

Mr. P. W. Wells
General Manager, Edwin I. Hatch
Nuclear Plant
Southern Nuclear Operating
Company, Inc.
U.S. Highway 1 North
P. O. Box 2010
Baxley, Georgia 31515

Mr. L. M. Bergen
Resident Manager
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant
P. O. Box 2010
Baxley, Georgia 31515