July 9, 2003

Mr. Stephen A. Byrne
Senior Vice President, Nuclear Operations
South Carolina Electric & Gas Company
Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station
Post Office Box 88
Jenkinsville, South Carolina 29065

SUBJECT: DRAFT SUPPLEMENT 15 TO THE GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (GEIS) REGARDING LICENSE RENEWAL FOR VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION (TAC NO. MB5227)

Dear Mr. Byrne:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed the draft plant-specific Supplement 15 to the "Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants," NUREG-1437, regarding the renewal of Operating License NPF-12 for an additional 20 years of operation at the Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station. Enclosed is a copy of the draft report and the associated *Federal Register* Notice of Availability. The draft report is for your review, with the comment period ending October 3, 2003. The notice advises the public that the draft report is available for public inspection 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/reading-rm.html (the Public Electronic Reading Room). In addition, the Thomas Cooper Library, located at 1322 Greene Street, Columbia, South Carolina, and the Fairfield County Library, located at 300 Washington Street, Winnsboro, South Carolina, have agreed to make the draft supplement available for public inspection.

The draft report will also be filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and a Notice of Availability will be subsequently published by the EPA in the *Federal Register*.
All comments on the draft plant-specific Supplement 15 to the GEIS should be submitted by the October 3, 2003, deadline and can be sent electronically to the NRC at VCSummerEIS@nrc.gov or addressed to:

Chief
Rules and Directive Branch
Mailstop T-6D 59
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

A public meeting will be held August 26, 2003, in the Fellowship Room of White Hall A.M.E. Church, 8594 State Highway 215 South, Jenkinsville, South Carolina. The staff will be conducting two meetings on August 26th; the first will commence at 1:30 p.m. and the second at 7:00 p.m. South Carolina Electric and Gas Company is invited to participate in both sessions of the meeting. The NRC staff will host informal discussions on the supplemental environmental impact statement review one hour prior to the start of each session at the same location. Interested parties are invited to participate. A separate meeting notice will be issued with a detailed agenda. In the interim, should you have any questions regarding the public meetings, please contact the NRC environmental project manager, Mr. Gregory F. Suber, at (301) 415-1124.

Sincerely,
/RA/

Pao-Tsin Kuo, Program Director
License Renewal and Environmental Impacts
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No.: 50-395

Enclosures: As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

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Sincerely,
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Pao-Tsin Kuo, Program Director
License Renewal and Environmental Impacts
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Chpt: 9: **ML031900006**
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App. c: **ML031900009**, App. d: **ML031900010**
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*See previous concurrence
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OFFICE	RLEP	PM:RLEP	LA:RLEP	SC:RLEP	OGC (NLO)	PD:RLEP
NAME	SFox*(RSchaaf for)	GSuber*	YEdmonds*	JTappert*	RWeisman*	PTKuo*
DATE	6/30/03	06/30/03	06/30/03	06/30/03	07/7/03	07/9/03

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC AND GAS

VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION

DOCKET NO. 50-395

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT SUPPLEMENT 15 TO THE

GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND PUBLIC MEETING

FOR THE LICENSE RENEWAL OF VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION

Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has published a draft plant-specific supplement to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS), NUREG-1437, regarding the renewal of Operating License NPF-12 for an additional 20 years of operation at Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station (V.C. Summer) and will hold a public meeting to present an overview of the draft plant-specific supplement to the GEIS and to accept public comments on the document. V.C. Summer is located in Fairfield County, South Carolina. Possible alternatives to the proposed action (license renewal) include no action and reasonable alternative energy sources.

The draft supplement to the GEIS is available electronically for public inspection in the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland, or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web Site at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm.html (the Public Electronic Reading Room). Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, should contact the NRC's PDR Reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov. In addition, the Thomas Cooper Library, located at 1322 Greene Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29208, and the Fairfield

County Library, located at 300 Washington Street, Winnsboro, South Carolina 29180, have agreed to make the draft supplement to the GEIS available for public inspection.

Any interested party may submit comments on the draft supplement to the GEIS for consideration by the NRC staff. To be certain of consideration, comments on the draft supplement to the GEIS and the proposed action must be received by October 3, 2003. Comments received after the due date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the NRC staff is able to assure consideration only for comments received on or before this date. Written comments on the draft supplement to the GEIS should be sent to:

Chief, Rules and Directives Branch
Division of Administrative Services
Office of Administration
Mail Stop T-6D 59
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Comments may be hand-delivered to the NRC at 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, between 7:45 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. on Federal workdays. Electronic comments may be submitted to the NRC by email at VCSummerEIS@nrc.gov. All comments received by the Commission, including those made by Federal, State, and local agencies, Indian tribes, or other interested persons, will be made available electronically at the Commission's PDR in Rockville, Maryland, and from the PARS component of NRC's ADAMS.

The NRC staff will hold a public meeting to present an overview of the draft plant-specific supplement to the GEIS and to accept public comments on the document. The public meeting will be held on August 26, 2003, at White Hall A.M.E. Church in the Fellowship Room, 8594 State Highway 215 South, Jenkinsville, South Carolina. There will be two sessions to accommodate interested parties. The first session will commence at 1:30 p.m. and will continue until 4:30 p.m. The second session will commence at 7:00 p.m. and will continue until 10:00 p.m. Both meetings will be transcribed and will include (1) a presentation of the contents

of the draft plant-specific supplement to the GEIS, and (2) the opportunity for interested government agencies, organizations, and individuals to provide comments on the draft report. Additionally, the NRC staff will host informal discussions one hour prior to the start of each session at the same location. No comments on the draft supplement to the GEIS will be accepted during the informal discussions. To be considered, comments must be provided either at the transcribed public meetings or in writing, as discussed below. Persons may pre-register to attend or present oral comments at the meeting by contacting Mr. Gregory F. Suber, by telephone at 1-800-368-5642, extension 1124, or by email at gxs@nrc.gov no later than August 20, 2003. Members of the public may also register to provide oral comments within 15 minutes of the start of each session. Individual oral comments may be limited by the time available, depending on the number of persons who register. If special equipment or accommodations are needed to attend or present information at the public meeting, the need should be brought to Mr. Suber's attention no later than August 18, 2003, to provide the NRC staff adequate notice to determine whether the request can be accommodated.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Mr. Gregory F. Suber, License Renewal and Environmental Impacts Program, Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001. Mr. Suber may be contacted at the aforementioned telephone number or e-mail address.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of July, 2003

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
/RA/

Pao-Tsin Kuo, Program Director
License Renewal and Environmental Impacts
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc:

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Winston & Strawn Law Firm
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Nuclear Coordinator
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