

March 12, 1998

Southern Nuclear Operating Company  
ATTN: Mr. C. K. McCoy  
Vice President  
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant  
P. O. Box 1295  
Birmingham, AL 35201

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 50-424/98-01 AND 50-425/98-01

Dear Mr. McCoy:

An NRC inspection was conducted January 26 - 30, 1998, at your Vogtle Units 1 and 2 reactor facilities. This was an inspection of your implementation of the requirements of 10 CFR 50.65, "Requirements for Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants" [the Maintenance Rule]. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

Your program for implementing the requirements of the Maintenance Rule followed the guidance provided in NUMARC 93-01, "Industry Guideline for Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants," Revision 2, dated April 1996, which was endorsed in Regulatory Guide 1.160, "Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants," Revision 2, dated March 1997.

The inspection concluded that your program was being effectively implemented. Engineering integration into, and contribution to, implementation of the Maintenance Rule was considered to be a strength. However, we found that implementing procedures lacked details in a number of areas. Based on this detail deficiency in the written program, we believe that effective implementation of the program is heavily dependant upon experienced personnel being constantly involved in program implementation. We consider that a detailed written program that provides sufficient details to assure implementation without relying totally on personnel experience is essential for continued effective program implementation.



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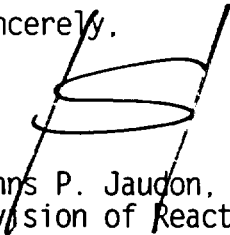
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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR).

Sincerely,



Johns P. Jaudon, Director  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos.: 50-424 and 50-425  
License Nos.: NPF-68 and NPF-81

Enclosure: NRC Inspection Report  
50-424/98-01, 50-425/98-01

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