

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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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

cc w/encl:
J. D. Woodard
Executive Vice President
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
P. O. Box 1295
Birmingham, AL 35201-1295

J. B. Beasley
General Manager, Plant Vogtle
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
P. O. Box 1600
Waynesboro, GA 30830

J. A. Bailey
Manager-Licensing
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
P. O. Box 1295
Birmingham, AL 35201-1295

(cc w/encl cont'd - See page 3)

SNC

(cc w/encl cont'd)
Director, Consumers' Utility Counsel Division
Governor's Office of Consumer Affairs
2 M. L. King, Jr. Drive
Plaza Level East; Suite 356
Atlanta, GA 30334-4600

Office of Planning and Budget
Room 615B
270 Washington Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30334

Office of the County Commissioner
Burke County Commission
Waynesboro, GA 30830

Director, Department of Natural Resources
205 Butler Street, SE, Suite 1252
Atlanta, GA 30334

Manager, Radioactive Materials Program
Department of Natural Resources
4244 International Parkway
Suite 114
Atlanta, GA 30354

Attorney General
Law Department
132 Judicial Building
Atlanta, GA 30334

Program Manager
Fossil & Nuclear Operations
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
2100 E. Exchange Place
Tucker, GA 30085-1349

(cc w/encl cont'd - See page 4)

SNC

(cc w/encl cont'd)
 Charles A. Patrizia, Esq.
 Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker
 10th Floor
 1299 Pennsylvania Avenue
 Washington, D. C. 20004-9500

Senior Engineer - Power Supply
 Municipal Electric Authority
 of Georgia
 1470 Riveredge Parkway NW
 Atlanta, GA 30328-4684

Distribution w/encl:
 P. Skinner, RII
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NRC Senior Resident Inspector
 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 8805 River Road
 Waynesboro, GA 30830

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