

February 25, 2004

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

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

Dear Mr. Byrne:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) staff has completed the plant-specific Supplement 15 to NUREG-1437, "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants," regarding the renewal of operating license NPF-12 for the Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station, for an additional 20 years of operation. Enclosed is a copy of the final report and the associated *Federal Register* Notice of Availability. The notice advises the public that the final report is available for public inspection in the Commission Public Document Room or 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).

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 the Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station are not so great that preserving the option of license renewal for energy planning decision makers would be unreasonable. This recommendation is based on: (1) the analysis and findings in the GEIS; (2) the Environmental Report submitted by South Carolina Electric & Gas Company (SCE&G); (3) consultation with Federal, State, and local agencies; (4) the staff's own independent review; and (5) the staff's consideration of public comments.

S. Byrne

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A separate notice of filing of the final environmental impact statement will be placed in the *Federal Register* through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. William Dam, the NRC Environmental Project Manager at (301) 415-4014.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

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

Docket No.: 50-395

Enclosures: As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

S. Byrne

2

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DATE	1/20/04	1/20/04	1/20/04	1/21/04	2/2/04	2/10/04

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-395

VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL SUPPLEMENT 15 TO THE GENERIC  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT REGARDING LICENSE RENEWAL  
FOR THE VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION

Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has published a final plant-specific supplement to the "Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS)", NUREG-1437, regarding the renewal of operating license NPF-12 for Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station (V. C. Summer), for an additional 20 years of operation. V. C. Summer is owned by South Carolina Electric and Gas Company (SCE&G), and is located in Fairfield County, South Carolina, approximately 26 miles northwest of Columbia, South Carolina. Possible alternatives to the proposed action (license renewal) include no action and reasonable alternative methods of power generation.

It is stated in Section 9.3 of the report:

Based on (1) the analysis and findings in the GEIS (NRC 1996; 1999); (2) the Environmental Report submitted by SCE&G (SCE&G 2002b); (3) consultation with Federal, State, and local agencies; (4) the staff's own independent review; and (5) the staff's consideration of public comments, the staff recommends that the Commission determine that the adverse environmental impacts of license renewal for V. C. Summer are not so

great that preserving the option of license renewal for energy planning decisionmakers would be unreasonable.

The final Supplement 15 to the GEIS is available for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR) located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland, 20852 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 PDR reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to [pdr@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr@nrc.gov). The final supplement to the GEIS is also available for public inspection at the Thomas Cooper Library, 1322 Greene Street, Columbia, South Carolina, 29208 and at the Fairfield County Library, 300 Washington Street, Winnsboro, South Carolina, 29180.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. William Dam, License Renewal and Environmental Impacts Program, Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mail Stop O-11 F1, Washington, D.C. 20555. Mr. Dam may be contacted at (301) 415-4014 or [WLD@nrc.gov](mailto:WLD@nrc.gov).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2004.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

**/RA/**

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

Mr. Stephen A. Byrne  
South Carolina Electric & Gas Company  
cc:

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