SAFEGUARDS INFORMATION

August 24, 2004

Mr. J. Barnie Beasley, Jr., P. E. Executive Vice President Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. 40 Invernes Center Parkway Post Office Box 1295 Birmingham, Alabama 35201 c/o Mr. John R. Thompson c/o Ms. Rebecca V. Badham c/o Mr. Ken C. Dyar

SUBJECT: CLARIFICATION OF VEHICLE SEARCH CRITERIA

Dear Mr. Beasley:

In an August 6, 2004, letter from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Chairman Nils Diaz to Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) President Joe Colvin, the NRC provided the power reactor industry with a revised position on the criteria for conducting vehicle searches. The enclosure to this letter forwards an update to the guidelines specified on page 23 of the May 8, 2004, document entitled "NRC Guidance on Implementation of the April 2003 Revised Design Basis Threat." The staff conferred with the Commission in preparing this clarification.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or the guidance, please contact Mr. Juan Peralta at (301) 415-6689, or me at (301) 415-7083.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Scott A. Morris, Chief Reactor Security Section Division of Nuclear Security Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response

Enclosure: Vehicle Search Requirements (August 23, 2004)

Docket Nos.: 50-321, 50-366, 50-348, 50-364, 50-424, and 50-425

WARNING: Violation of Section 147 of the Atomic Energy Act, "Safeguards Information" is subject to Civil and Criminal Penalties

NOTICE: Enclosure transmitted herewith contains "Safeguards Information." When separated from Enclosure(s) this Cover Document is "DECONTROLLED" August 24, 2004

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