UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
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ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931

February 10, 2005

Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
ATTN: Mr. D. E. Grissette, Vice President
P. O. Box 1295
Birmingham, AL 35201-1295

SUBJECT: REACTOR AND SENIOR REACTOR OPERATOR INITIAL EXAMINATIONS - VOGTLE NUCLEAR PLANT - 05000424/2005301 AND 05000425/2005301

Dear Mr. Grissette:

In a telephone conversation on February 9, 2005, between Mr. Daniel Scukanec, Senior Nuclear Operations Plant Instructor, and Mr. Richard S. Baldwin, Senior Operations Engineer, arrangements were made for the administration of licensing examinations at Vogtle Nuclear Plant. The written examinations are scheduled to be given on May 16, 2005, and the operating tests are scheduled to be given during the weeks of May 16 and May 23, 2005. The on-site preparatory week is scheduled for the week of May 2, 2005.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, the NRC will prepare the written examination, operating test outlines and simulator outlines. Your staff will provide details for these outlines based on the guidelines in NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors", Revision 9. The NRC regional office will discuss with your staff any changes that might be necessary before the examinations are administered. Your staff will be given the opportunity to review the examinations during the week of April 25, 2005.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the reference materials identified in Attachment 2 of ES-201 by February 21, 2005. Any delay in receiving the required reference materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the examinations to be rescheduled.

In order to conduct the requested written examinations and operating tests, it will be necessary for your staff to provide adequate space and accommodations in accordance with ES-402, and to make the simulation facility available on the dates noted above. In accordance with ES-302, your staff should retain the original simulator performance data (e.g., system pressures, temperatures, and levels) generated during the dynamic operating tests until the examination results are final.

Appendix E of NUREG-1021 contains a number of NRC policies and guidelines that will be in effect while the written examinations and operating tests are being administered.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit preliminary reactor operator and senior reactor operator license applications (Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval number 3150-0090), medical certifications (OMB approval number 3150-0024), and waiver requests (if any)(OMB approval number 3150-0090) at least 30 days before the first

examination date. If the applications are not received at least 30 days before the examination date, a postponement may be necessary. Signed applications certifying that all training has been completed should be submitted at least 14 days before the first examination date.

This letter contains information collections that are subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). These information collections were approved by the Office of Management and Budget, approval number Part 55 (3150-0018), which expires on June 30, 2006. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 50 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments on any aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information and Records Management Branch (T-6 F33), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by Internet electronic mail at BJS1@NRC.GOV; and to the Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-10202, (3150-0018), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

The NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Scukanec has been advised of the policies and guidelines referenced in this letter. If you have any questions regarding the NRC's examination procedures and guidelines, please contact Rick Baldwin at (404) 562-4642, (Internet E-mail: RSB2@nrc.gov), or or me at (404) 562-4647, (Internet E-mail: JHM2@nrc.gov)

Sincerely,

/RA/

James H. Moorman, III, Chief
Operator Licensing Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

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

cc: (See next page)

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