UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET, SW, SUITE 23T85
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931

March 1, 2007

Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
ATTN: Mr. T. E. Tynan
Vice President - Vogtle
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant
7821 River Road
Waynesboro, GA 30830

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER - VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT (NRC INSPECTION REPORT 05000424/2007001 AND 05000425/2007001)

Dear Mr. Tynan:

On February 6, 2007, the NRC staff completed its performance review of the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant. Our technical staff reviewed performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the period from January 1 through December 31, 2006. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility.

This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include physical protection information. A separate letter designated and marked as “Exempt from Public Disclosure in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390” will include the physical protection review and resultant inspection plan.

Overall, Vogtle Units 1 and 2 operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and fully met all cornerstone objectives. Plant performance for the most recent quarter was within the Regulatory Response column of the NRC’s Action Matrix based on a White inspection finding in the Emergency Preparedness (EP) cornerstone and the Unit 2 Mitigating Systems Performance Index (MSPI) for Cooling Water Systems crossing the White threshold. The EP inspection finding was for the failure of the critique process to identify a weakness associated with a risk-significant planning standard that was determined to be a Drill/Exercise Performance Performance Indicator opportunity failure during the full-scale exercise and was identified in the third quarter. The Unit 2 MSPI for Cooling Water Systems crossed the White threshold in the third quarter due to multiple failures of a single Nuclear Service Cooling Water train.

We were notified by your staff of your readiness for the NRC to conduct a supplemental inspection to review the actions taken to address the White MSPI for Cooling Water Systems. Therefore, we plan to conduct a supplemental inspection, using Inspection Procedure (IP) 95001, beginning on May 14, 2007.

You have appealed the EP finding and our review of your final appeal is not yet complete. We will schedule a date to conduct a supplemental inspection, using IP 95001, once we are informed you are prepared for this inspection.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, less those related to physical protection, scheduled through September 30, 2008. The inspection plan is provided to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues well in advance of inspector arrival onsite. In addition to routine baseline inspections, we will also be performing inspections of reactor vessel head and head penetrations, Unit 2 containment emergency recirculation sump modifications, and license renewal activities. Additionally, initial reactor operator licensing examinations are scheduled. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last twelve months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the mid-cycle review.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made 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).

If circumstances arise which cause us to change this inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact Scott Shaeffer at (404)562-4521 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely;

/RA/

Charles A Casto, Director
Division of Reactor Projects, Region II

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

Enclosure: Vogtle Inspection/ Activity Plan

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X PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ☐ NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ☐ SENSITIVE X NON-SENSITIVE

ADAMS: X Yes ACCESSION NUMBER: Package ML070600494 Letter ML070600496

OFFICE	RII:DRP	RII:DRP					
SIGNATURE	CWR /RA/	SMS /RA/					
NAME	CRapp	SShaeffer					
DATE	02/26/2007	02/26/2007					
E-MAIL COPY?	YESNO	YESNO	YESNO	YESNO	YESNO	YESNO	YESNO

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY DOCUMENT NAME: I:\RPB2\VOGTLE\Mid & End Cycle\2006 Assessment Letter.doc

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Distribution w/encl: (See page 4)

Letter to Mr. T. E. Tynan from Charles A. Casto dated March 1, 2007.
SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER - VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT
(NRC INSPECTION REPORT 05000424/2007001 AND 05000425/2007001

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