

August 13, 2008

Mr. Joseph A. (Buzz) Miller,  
Senior Vice President  
Southern Nuclear Operating Company  
P. O. Box 1295  
Birmingham, AL 35201-1295

SUBJECT: CHANGES IN THE PROCESSING OF REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL  
INFORMATION – THE VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT UNITS  
3 AND 4 COMBINED LICENSE APPLICATION

Dear Mr. Miller:

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has developed a computer-based system for processing Requests for Additional Information (RAIs), which has been discussed at several public meetings with industry. Implementation of the electronic RAI Workflow Process does not change the NRC's overall position regarding the importance and processing of RAIs. Rather, it is an effort to shorten the time required for RAI processing and make it more efficient. In general, as RAIs are developed by the NRC staff, they will be processed and approved electronically. After approval, they will be provided to applicants as an attachment to an e-mail from the NRC Project Manager. The e-mail and attached questions will be entered into the Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS) as the official agency record and made available to the public through ADAMS and the NRC public website. With the implementation of the electronic system, it is the intent of the NRC to eliminate distribution of paper copies of RAIs to applicants and of paper and e-mail copies to those listed on the respective distribution lists. We understand that Southern Nuclear Operating Company will continue to respond to RAIs by letter.

We believe that this new process is more efficient, and will provide quicker access to RAIs by applicants, the public, as well as other stakeholders on the various distribution lists. Instances in which this process creates a hardship for a recipient that had previously relied on paper copies they will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and efforts made to accommodate the circumstances of the particular situation.

J. Miller

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If you have questions, I can be reached at (301) 415-6191 or you can contact Christian Araguas, the lead project manager for the VGEP COL application at (301) 415-3637.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Ravindra G. Joshi, Project Manager  
AP1000 Projects Branch 1  
Division of New Reactor Licensing  
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos.: 52-025  
52-026

cc: see next page

J. Miller

- 2 -

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Docket Nos.: 52-025  
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cc: see next page

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