Vogtle PEmails

From: Christian Araguas
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2008 3:45 PM
To: jtdavis@southernco.com
Cc: crpierce@southernco.com; Aughtman, Amy G.; wasparkm@southernco.com
Subject: Signed Cover Letter for the Advanced SER
Attachments: Vogtle ESP Advanced SER Cover Letter.pdf

Jim,

Attached is the signed cover letter transmitting the Advanced SER.

Christian Araguas
Lead Project Manager
AP1000 Projects Branch 1
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Hearing Identifier: Vogtle_Public_EX
Email Number: 118

Mail Envelope Properties (Christian.Araguas@nrc.gov20081112154400)

Subject: Signed Cover Letter for the Advanced SER
Sent Date: 11/12/2008 3:44:47 PM
Received Date: 11/12/2008 3:44:00 PM
From: Christian Araguas

Created By: Christian.Araguas@nrc.gov

Recipients:
"crpierce@southernco.com" <crpierce@southernco.com>
Tracking Status: None
"Aughtman, Amy G." <AGAUGHTM@SOUTHERNCO.COM>
Tracking Status: None
"wasparkm@southernco.com" <wasparkm@southernco.com>
Tracking Status: None
"jtdavis@southernco.com" <jtdavis@southernco.com>
Tracking Status: None

Post Office:

Files	**Size**	**Date & Time**
MESSAGE	227	11/12/2008 3:44:00 PM
Vogtle ESP Advanced SER Cover Letter.pdf	1532700	

Options
Priority: Standard
Return Notification: No
Reply Requested: No
Sensitivity: Normal
Expiration Date:
Recipients Received:

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 12, 2008

Mr. J. A. "Buzz" Miller, Senior Vice President
Nuclear Development
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
40 Inverness Center Parkway
P.O. Box 1295
Birmingham, AL 35201

SUBJECT: ADVANCED SAFETY EVALUATION REPORT FOR THE VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT EARLY SITE PERMIT APPLICATION AND LIMITED WORK AUTHORIZATION REQUEST

Dear Mr. Miller:

By letter dated August 14, 2006, Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) tendered its application for an early site permit (ESP) for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) site, in accordance with Subpart A, "Early Site Permits," of Title 10, Part 52, "Licenses, Certifications, and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants," of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR Part 52). The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or Commission) formally docketed the application on September 19, 2006.

In addition, by letter dated August 16, 2007, SNC submitted a limited work authorization (LWA) request in accordance with 10 CFR 52.17(c). The activities that SNC requested under its LWA are limited to placement of engineered backfill, retaining walls, lean concrete, mudmats, and a waterproof membrane.

This safety evaluation report (SER) documents the NRC staff's position on all safety issues associated with the ESP application and LWA request. This SER has not undergone a final review by the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) and is therefore subject to change. Following the ACRS review, the staff will issue the final safety evaluation report (FSER). Therefore, this report is considered the advanced SER with no open items until the ACRS has completed its review and the staff issues the document as a final report.

The advanced SER is being issued in accordance with the published schedule on the NRC public website. Issuance of this SER is an important milestone in the staff's review to determine whether SNC's application meets the Commission's regulations. The Commission is expected to reach a final decision on the ESP application and LWA request after reviewing the staff's final SER and final environmental impact statement, along with a report from the ACRS and the findings of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board.

The staff concludes that the enclosed SER does not contain any information for which exemption from public disclosure has been sought or approved. However, the NRC will withhold the enclosed SER from public disclosure for the mutually agreed upon duration of 5 calendar days from the date of this letter to allow SNC the opportunity to verify the staff's conclusion that the SER contains no such exempt information. If, within that time, you do not request that all or portions of the SER be withheld from public disclosure in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding," the enclosure will be made available for public inspection through the NRC's Public Document Room and the

Publicly Available Records component of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the Public Electronic Reading Room section of the NRC Web site at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html.

Please contact Mr. Christian Araguas, the NRC project manager for the review of the SNC VEGP ESP application and LWA request, at (301) 415-3637 or cja2@nrc.gov if you have any questions or comments concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

David B. Matthews, Director
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

Docket No. 52-011

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/o encl: See next page