



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

December 31, 2008

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

SUBJECT: VOGTLE - NRC EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS INSPECTION REPORT
05000424/2008-501 AND 05000425/2008-501

Dear Mr. Tynan:

On December 5, 2008, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed an inspection at your Vogtle, Units 1 and 2. The enclosed inspection report documents the inspection results, which were discussed on December 5, 2008, with Mr. R. Dedrickson and other members of your staff.

The inspection examined activities conducted under your license as they relate to safety and compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations and with the conditions of your license. The inspectors reviewed selected procedures and records, observed activities, and interviewed personnel.

Based on the results of this inspection, no findings of significance were identified.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure, and your response, if any, 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 Website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

Ruben Hamilton /RA/ for
Brian Bonser, Chief
Plant Support Branch 1
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No.(s): 50-424, 50-425
License No.(s): NPF-68, NPF-81

Enclosure: Inspection Report 05000424/2008-501 and 05000425/2008-501 w/Attachment:
Supplemental Information

cc w/encl.: (See page 2)

cc w/encl:

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Letter to Tom E. Tynan from Brian Bonser dated December 31, 2008

SUBJECT: VOGTLE - NRC EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS INSPECTION REPORT
05000424/2008-501 AND 05000425/2008-501

Distribution w/encl:

RIDSNRRDIRS

PUBLIC

R. Martin, NRR (PM: HAT, SUM)

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/RA/
Brian Bonser, Chief
Plant Support Branch 1
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. (s): 50-424, 50-425
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Supplemental Information
cc w/encl.: (See page 2)

PUBLICLY AVAILABLE NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE SENSITIVE NON-SENSITIVE
ADAMS:X Yes ACCESSION NUMBER: _____ SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE

OFFICE	RII:DRS	RII:DRS	RII:DRP				
SIGNATURE	/RA/	RHamilton /RA/ for	See Email				
NAME	Lee Miller	Brian Bonser	Scott Shaeffer				
DATE	12/29/2008	12/ /2008	12/ /2008	12/ /2008	12/ /2008	12/ /2008	12/ /2008
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II

Docket Nos.: 05000424, 05000425

License Nos.: NPF-68, NPF-81

Report No.: 05000424/2008-501 and 05000425/2008-501

Licensee: Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.

Facility: Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2

Location: Waynesboro, GA

Dates: June 23 - 27, 2008 and December 1 - 5, 2008

Inspectors: Lee Miller, Senior Emergency Preparedness Inspector
Bob Holbrook, Emergency Preparedness Inspector
Rick Baldwin, Senior Operations Engineer
Eddie Morris, Senior Resident Inspector (Acting)
Tim Chandler, Resident Inspector

Approved by: Brian R. Bonser, Chief
Plant Support Branch 1
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosure

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

IR 05000424/2008-501 and 05000425/2008-501; 06/06/2008 – 12/05/2008; Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2; Emergency Preparedness

The report covered an announced inspection by two emergency preparedness inspectors, a reactor operations engineer, and two resident inspectors. The NRC's program for overseeing the safe operation of commercial nuclear power reactors is described in NUREG-1649, "Reactor Oversight Process."

A. NRC-Identified and Self-Revealing Findings

No findings of significance were identified.

B. Licensee-Identified Violations

None

REPORT DETAILS

1. REACTOR SAFETY

Cornerstone: Emergency Preparedness

1EP1 Exercise Evaluation

a. Inspection Scope

Prior to the inspection activity, the inspectors conducted an in-office review of the exercise objectives and scenario submitted to the NRC to determine if the exercise would test major elements of the emergency plan as required by 10 CFR 50.47(b)(14). This inspection activity represents one sample on a biennial cycle.

The onsite inspection consisted of the following review and assessment:

- The adequacy of the licensee's performance in the biennial exercise conducted on December 2, 2008, was reviewed and assessed regarding the implementation of the Risk Significant Planning Standards (RSPSs) in 10 CFR 50.47 (b)(4), (5), (9), and (10), which address emergency classification, offsite notification, radiological assessment, and protective action recommendations, respectively.
- The overall adequacy of the licensee's emergency response facilities with regard to NUREG-0696, "Functional Criteria for Emergency Response Facilities" and Emergency Plan commitments. The facilities assessed were the Control Room simulator, Technical Support Center (TSC), Operations Support Center (OSC) and Emergency Operations Facility (EOF).
- Other performance areas besides the RSPS, such as the emergency response organization's (ERO) recognition of abnormal plant conditions, command and control, intra- and inter-facility communications, prioritization of mitigation activities, utilization of repair and field monitoring teams, interface with offsite agencies, and the overall implementation of the emergency plan and its implementing procedures.
- Past performance issues from NRC inspection reports and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)/Department of Homeland Security (DHS) exercise reports to determine effectiveness of corrective actions as demonstrated during this exercise to ensure compliance with 10 CFR 50.47(b)(14).
- The post-exercise critique process and the presentation to the licensee's senior management conducted on December 4, 2008, to evaluate the licensee's self-assessment of its ERO performance during the exercise and to ensure compliance with 10 CFR 50 Appendix E.IV.F.2.g.

The inspectors reviewed various documents which are listed in the Attachment to this report.

b. Findings

No findings of significance were identified.

1EP4 Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes

a. Inspection Scope

Since the last NRC inspection of this program area, Revisions 45, 46, 48, 49, and 50 of the Radiological Emergency Response Plan was implemented based on the licensee's determination, in accordance with 10 CFR 50.54(q), that the changes resulted in no decrease in the effectiveness of the Plan, and that the revised Plan continued to meet the requirements of 10 CFR 50.47(b) and Appendix E to 10 CFR Part 50. The inspectors conducted a sampling review of the Plan changes and implementing procedure changes made between September 30, 2007 and October 31, 2008 to evaluate for potential decreases in effectiveness of the Plan. However, this review was not documented in a Safety Evaluation Report and does not constitute formal NRC approval of the changes. Therefore, these changes remain subject to future NRC inspection in their entirety.

The inspection was conducted in accordance with NRC Inspection Procedure 71114, Attachment 04, "Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes." The applicable planning standard (PS), 10 CFR 50.47(b)(4) and its related 10 CFR 50, Appendix E requirements were used as reference criteria.

The inspectors reviewed various documents which are listed in the Attachment to this report. This inspection activity satisfied one inspection sample for the emergency action level and emergency plan changes on an annual basis.

b. Findings

No findings of significance were identified.

4. OTHER ACTIVITIES

4OA1 Performance Indicator Verification

a. Inspection Scope

Cornerstone: Emergency Preparedness

The inspectors sampled licensee submittals for three Performance Indicators (PI) listed below. For each of the submittals reviewed, the inspectors reviewed the period from January 1, 2007 through March 31, 2008.

To verify the accuracy of the PI data reported during that period, PI definitions and guidance contained in Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) 99-02, "Regulatory Assessment Indicator Guideline," Revision 5, were used to verify the basis in reporting for each data element.

- Emergency Response Organization Drill/Exercise Performance (DEP)
- Emergency Response Organization Readiness (ERO)
- Alert and Notification System Reliability (ANS)

The inspectors reviewed portions of the raw PI data developed from monthly performance indicator reports and discussed the methods for compiling and reporting the PIs with cognizant emergency preparedness personnel. The inspectors also independently screened drill and exercise opportunity evaluations, drill participation reports, and drill evaluations. Selected reported values were calculated to verify their accuracy. The inspectors compared graphical representations from the most recent PI report to the raw data to verify that the data was correctly reflected in the report. Reviewed documents are listed in the Attachment to this report.

b. Findings

No findings of significance were identified.

4OA5 Other Activities

.1 (Closed) NRC Temporary Instruction (TI) 2525/175, Emergency Response Organization, Drill/Exercise Performance Indicator, Program Review

The inspectors completed Temporary Instruction TI 2515/175, Emergency Response Organization, Drill/Exercise Performance Indicator, Program Review. Appropriate documentation of the results was provided to NRC, HQ, as required by the TI. This completes the Region II inspection requirements for this TI for Vogtle Electric Generating Plant.

4OA6 Meetings, including Exit

On December 5, 2008, the lead inspector presented the inspection results to Mr. R. Dedrickson and other members of his staff. The inspectors confirmed that proprietary information was not provided during the inspection.

ATTACHMENT: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

KEY POINTS OF CONTACT

Licensee personnel

T. Tynan, Site Vice President
R. Dedrickson, Plant Manager
J. Williamson, Site Support Manager
D. Vineyard, Operations Manager
B. Brown, Training Manager
R. Anderson, Emergency Preparedness Supervisor
C. Boone, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

LIST OF DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

1EP1 Exercise Evaluation

Procedures

17100-1, Annunciator Response Procedure for the Process and Effluent Radiation Monitoring System (RMS), Rev. 23
91001-C, Emergency Classification and Implementing Instructions, Rev. 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31
91002-C, Emergency Notifications, Rev. 52
91101-C, Emergency Response Organization, Rev. 24.1
91103-C, Duties of the TSC Manager, Rev. 20
91104-C, Duties of the Operations Support Center Manager, Rev. 23
91202-C, Activation and Operation of the Operations Support Center, Rev. 18
91401-C, Assembly and Accountability, Rev. 18
91303-C, Field Sampling and Surveys, Rev. 24
91304-C, Estimating Offsite Dose, Rev. 22
91301-C, Emergency Exposure Guidelines, Rev. 9.1

Records and Data

Documentation packages completed in the Control Room, Technical Support Center, Operations Support Center, Emergency Operations Facility, Joint Information Center. The packages included, but not limited to the following: logs, event notification forms, Protective Action Recommendations, Media releases, Radiological Dose Assessments, and Core Damage calculations.

Corrective Action - Problem Evaluation Report

2008112703, Event classification evaluated as UNSAT. Remediation will be conducted.
2008112751, The GE notification had the wrong wind direction which resulted in an inaccurate PAR
2008112750, Four Drill/Exercise Performance successes out of ten opportunities for 2008 exercise – knowledge gap for both development and notification of PARs
2008112758, Alert and SAE Classification not timely, knowledge gap in Operations as quickest method for determining RCS DEI Iodine-131 >300 µci/gram

Enclosure

1EP4 Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes

Plans and Changes packages

Change package for Vogtle Emergency Plan, Rev. 45, 46, 48, 49, and 50

Change package for 91001-C, Emergency Classification and Implementing Instructions, Rev. 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31

Change package for 91002-C, Emergency Notifications, Rev. 48, 49, 51, and 52

Change package for 91103-C, Duties of the TSC Manager, Rev. 20

Change package for 91202-C, Activation and Operation of the Operations Support Center, Rev. 18

Change package for 91204-C, Emergency Response Communications, Rev. 32

4OA1 Performance Indicator Verification

Records and Data

Documentation of Performance Indicator data January 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008 for DEP, ANS, and ERO

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ANS	Alert and Notification System
EOF	Emergency Operations Facility
DEP	Drill/Exercise Performance
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
ERO	Emergency Response Organization
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
NEI	Nuclear Energy Institute
OSC	Operations Support Center
PI	Performance Indicator
PS	Planning Standard
RSPSs	Risk Significant Planning Standards
TI	Temporary Instruction
TSC	Technical Support Center