

19.0 CONCLUSIONS

In accordance with Subpart A, "Early Site Permits," of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), Part 52, "Licenses, Certifications, and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants," the staff of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission reviewed the site safety analysis report (SSAR), the emergency planning information, and the limited work authorization (LWA) request included in the early site permit (ESP) application submitted by Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC), for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) ESP site. On the basis of its evaluation and its independent analyses as discussed in this safety evaluation report (SER), the staff concludes that the VEGP ESP site characteristics comply with the requirements of 10 CFR Part 100, "Reactor Site Criteria," subject to limitations and conditions proposed by the staff in this SER for inclusion in any ESP that might be issued. Further, for the reasons set forth in this SER, the staff concludes that, taking into consideration the site criteria contained in 10 CFR Part 100, two reactors, having characteristics that fall within the parameters for the site, and which meet the terms and conditions proposed by the staff in this SER, can be constructed and operated without undue risk to the health and safety of the public. The staff also finds that the proposed ITAAC for emergency planning are necessary and sufficient, within the scope of the ESP, to provide reasonable assurance that the facility has been constructed and will be operated in conformity with the license, the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act, and the Commission's rules and regulations. For the reasons above, the staff also concludes that issuance of the requested ESP will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public. If issued, the VEGP ESP may be referenced in an application to construct and operate two nuclear power reactors with a total generating capacity of up to 6800 megawatts (thermal) at the ESP site, subject to the terms and conditions of the permit.

In addition, the staff also concludes that the VEGP LWA request meets the applicable standards and requirements of the Act and the Commission's regulations. The staff finds that reasonable assurance has been established such that there is adequate protection to public health and safety, and that issuance of the LWA will also not be inimical to the common defense and security. The staff also finds that the proposed ITAAC for an LWA are necessary and sufficient, within the scope of the LWA, to provide reasonable assurance that the facility has been constructed and will be operated in conformity with the license, the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act, and the Commission's rules and regulations.