

**J. A. "Buzz" Miller**  
Executive Vice President  
Nuclear Development

**Southern Nuclear  
Operating Company, Inc.**  
42 Inverness Center Parkway  
Post Office Box 1295  
Birmingham, Alabama 35201  
  
Tel 205.992.5754  
Fax 205.992.6165



MAY 15 2009

Docket Nos.:52-025  
52-026

ND-09-0671

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Southern Nuclear Operating Company  
Review of Bellefonte Response to Request for Additional Information Number 08.01-02 for  
Applicability to Vogtle Electric Generating Plant Units 3 and 4 Combined License Application

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) has reviewed Tennessee Valley Authority's (TVA's) supplemental response to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Letter Number 25 request for additional information (RAI), submitted to the NRC on April 15, 2009 for proposed Bellefonte Nuclear (BLN) Units 3 and 4, Docket Numbers 52-014 and 52-015, for applicability to the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) Units 3 and 4 Combined License (COL) Application. Our review has determined that the standard response to NRC RAI 08.01-02 applies to the VEGP COL application with the following clarification.

The last sentence of the third paragraph of the TVA RAI response states: "In addition, there are no nearby large power sources, such as a gas turbine or black start fossil fuel plant, that can directly connect to the station to mitigate the event." However, the Vogtle site does have a black start fossil fuel plant nearby. Plant Wilson is a six-unit combustion turbine electric generating facility with black start capability, located approximately 1 mile east of the Vogtle site. As described in VEGP Units 3 and 4 FSAR subsection 8.2.1, the 230 kV transmission output of the Wilson substation connects to the Units 1, 2 and 3, 230/500 kV switchyard, which in turn connects to the 500 kV switchyard for Unit 4.

VEGP Units 3 and 4 are AP1000 plants and offsite power has no safety-related function due to the passive design. While Plant Wilson could be made available to re-supply power to Units 3 or 4 following a loss of the grid, this capability has not been credited as an alternate ac (AAC) power source.

*DO92  
NRO*

The TVA RAI response also identified a revision to COLA Part 2, FSAR Chapter 1, subsections 1.9.5.1.5 and 1.9.6. The VEGP Units 3 and 4 FSAR will incorporate these FSAR changes in a future revision, with the following change:

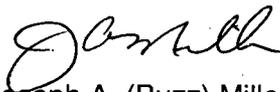
The fourth sentence of the first paragraph that reads: "In addition, there are no nearby large power sources, such as a gas turbine or black start fossil fuel plant, that can directly connect to the station to mitigate the event." will not be incorporated.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. Wes Sparkman at (205) 992-5061.

Mr. J. A. (Buzz) Miller states he is an Executive Vice President of Southern Nuclear Operating Company, is authorized to execute this oath on behalf of Southern Nuclear Operating Company and to the best of his knowledge and belief, the facts set forth in this letter are true.

Respectfully submitted,

SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY

  
Joseph A. (Buzz) Miller

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 15 day of May, 2009

Notary Public: Gloria H. Bui

My commission expires: April 1, 2013

JAM/GAB/dmw

cc: Southern Nuclear Operating Company

Mr. J. H. Miller, III, President and CEO  
Mr. J. T. Gasser, Executive Vice President, Nuclear Operations  
Mr. D. H. Jones, Site Vice President, Vogtle 3 & 4  
Mr. T. E. Tynan, Vice President - Vogtle  
Mr. D. M. Lloyd, Vogtle Deployment Director  
Mr. M. K. Smith, Technical Support Director  
Mr. C. R. Pierce, Vogtle Development Licensing Manager  
Mr. M. J. Ajluni, Nuclear Licensing Manager  
Mr. W. A. Sparkman, COL Project Engineer  
Document Services RTYPE: AR01.1053  
File AR.01.02.06

Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Mr. L. A. Reyes, Region II Administrator  
Mr. F.M. Akstulewicz, Deputy Director Division of Safety Systems & Risk Assessment  
Ms. S. M. Coffin, AP1000 Manager of New Reactors  
Mr. R. G. Joshi, Lead Project Manager of New Reactors  
Mr. B. Hughes, Project Manager of New Reactors  
Ms. T. E. Simms, Project Manager of New Reactors  
Mr. B. C. Anderson, Project Manager of New Reactors  
Mr. M. M. Comar, Project Manager of New Reactors  
Mr. M. D. Notich, Environmental Project Manager  
Mr. J. H. Fringer, III, Environmental Project Manager  
Mr. L. M. Cain, Senior Resident Inspector of VEGP

Georgia Power Company

Mr. O. C. Harper, IV, Vice President, Resource Planning and Nuclear Development

Oglethorpe Power Corporation

Mr. M. W. Price, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia

Mr. S. M. Jackson, Vice President, Power Supply

Dalton Utilities

Mr. D. Cope, President and Chief Executive Officer

Bechtel Power Corporation

Mr. J. S. Prebula, Project Engineer  
Mr. R. W. Prunty, Licensing Engineer

Tetra Tech NUS, Inc.

Ms. K. K. Patterson, Project Manager

Shaw Stone & Webster, Inc.

Mr. K. B. Allison, Project Manager  
Mr. J. M. Oddo, Licensing Manager  
Mr. D. C. Shutt, Licensing Engineer

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Westinghouse Electric Company, LLC

Mr. N. C. Boyter, Vice President, AP1000 Vogtle 3 & 4 Project

Mr. J. L. Whiteman, Principal Engineer, Licensing & Customer Interface