

June 23, 2009

Ms. Andrea L. Sterdis  
Manager, Nuclear Licensing & Industry Affairs  
Nuclear Generation Development & Construction  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
1101 Market Street  
Chattanooga, TN 37402-2801

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

SUBJECT: BELLEFONTE UNITS 3 AND 4 SAFETY EVALUATION REPORT WITH OPEN  
ITEMS FOR CHAPTER 10, "TURBINE GENERATOR"

Dear Ms. Sterdis and Mr. Miller:

By letter dated October 30, 2007 (ML073110527), as supplemented by letters dated November 2, 2007 (ML073090428), January 8, 2008 (ML080100104), and January 14, 2008 (ML080160252), the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) submitted its application to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for a combined license (COL) for two AP1000 advanced passive pressurized water reactors in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 52, "Licenses, Certifications and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants." The NRC formally docketed the application on January 18, 2008. These reactors are identified as Bellefonte (BLN) Units 3 and 4 and would be located near the town of Scottsboro in Jackson County, Alabama. The docket numbers established for Units 3 and 4 are 52-014 and 52-015, respectively. Subsequent to the original BLN COL application, TVA has updated and revised the application by letters dated October 10, 2008 (ML083100262), dated November 18, 2008 (ML083250490) and January 21, 2009 (ML090290406).

Based on our review of your application, the staff prepared the enclosed Safety Evaluation Report (SER) with Open Items for Chapter 10, "Turbine Generator." Unless otherwise stated in the SER with Open Items, the staff's review was based on revisions and updates made to the BLN COL application through January 21, 2009. The SER with Open Items is being provided to support the upcoming meeting of the subcommittee of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) scheduled to be held on July 23-24, 2009. The ACRS Full Committee meeting will be held at a later date. Issuance of this SER is an important milestone in the staff's review to determine whether TVA's application meets the Commission's regulations.

In a letter dated April 28, 2009, the NuStart Energy Development, LLC, consortium informed the NRC that it had changed the Reference COL designation for the AP1000 Design Center from BLN Nuclear Plant, Units 3 and 4 to the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP), Units 3 and 4. The NRC staff is taking steps necessary to implement this change. During this transition, the BLN Units 3 and 4 docket will continue to be the vehicle of standard content for the ACRS subcommittee reviews. It is the staff's understanding that Southern Nuclear Operating Company will be responsible for responding to open items related to standard content within a 45-day response period.

The staff concludes that the enclosed SER with Open Items 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 ten calendar days from the date of this letter to allow TVA 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>.

Should you have any questions, please contact Ms. Sujata Goetz, the NRC project manager at (301) 415-8004, [sujata.goetz@nrc.gov](mailto:sujata.goetz@nrc.gov) or Mr. Joseph Sebrosky, the lead project manager for the BLN COL application at (301) 415-1132, [joseph.sebrosky@nrc.gov](mailto:joseph.sebrosky@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Stephanie Coffin, Branch Chief  
AP1000 Projects Branch 1 (NWE1)  
Division of New Reactor Licensing  
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos. 52-014  
52-015  
52-025  
52-026

Enclosure:  
As stated

cc w/ encl: see next page

In a letter dated April 28, 2009, the NuStart Energy Development, LLC, consortium informed the NRC that it had changed the Reference COL designation for the AP1000 Design Center from BLN Nuclear Plant, Units 3 and 4 to the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP), Units 3 and 4. The NRC staff is taking steps necessary to implement this change. During this transition, the BLN Units 3 and 4 docket will continue to be the vehicle of standard content for the ACRS subcommittee reviews. It is the staff's understanding that Southern Nuclear Operating Company will be responsible for responding to open items related to standard content within a 45-day response period.

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Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Stephanie Coffin, Branch Chief  
AP1000 Projects Branch 1 (NWE1)  
Division of New Reactor Licensing  
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos. 52-014  
52-015  
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Enclosure:  
As stated

cc w/ encl: see next page

**PKG: ML091650005**

**SER: ML091260128**

**ACRS Memo: ML091650004**

**Accession No.: ML0916500003**

<b>OFFICE</b>	LA:DNRL/NWE1:	PM:DNRL/NWE1	OGC	BC:DNRL/NWE1
<b>NAME</b>	KGGoldstein	SGoetz	JMartin	SCoffin
<b>DATE</b>	06/12/09	06/12/09	06/22/09	06/23/09

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GHatchett

ASnyder

JPoehler

DReddy

BAnderson

MComar

SGoetz

BHughes

RJoshi

CNguyen

JSebrosky

TSimms

SHaggerty

DTerao

JSegala

AStubbs

COL - Vogtle Mailing List  
cc:

(Revised 04/30/2009)

Attorney General  
Law Department  
132 Judicial Building  
Atlanta, GA 30334

Mr. Laurence Bergen  
Oglethorpe Power Corporation  
2100 East Exchange Place  
P.O. Box 1349  
Tucker, GA 30085-1349

Mr. M. Stanford Blanton  
Esquire  
Balch and Bingham, LLP  
P.O. Box 306  
Birmingham, AL 35201

Ms. Michele Boyd  
Legislative Director  
Energy Program  
Public Citizens Critical Mass Energy  
and Environmental Program  
215 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20003

County Commissioner  
Office of the County Commissioner  
Burke County Commission  
Waynesboro, GA 30830

Mr. James Davis  
ESP Project Engineer  
Southern Nuclear Company  
PO Box 1295, BIN B056  
Birmingham, AL 35201

Director  
Consumer's Utility  
Counsel Division  
Governor's Office of Consumer Affairs  
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive  
Plaza Level East, Suite 356  
Atlanta, GA 30334-4600

Mr. Arthur H. Dombay, Esquire  
Troutman Sanders  
Nations Bank Plaza  
600 Peachtree Street, NE  
Suite 200  
Atlanta, GA 30308-2216

Mr. Jeffrey T. Gasser  
Executive Vice President  
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1295  
Birmingham, AL 35201-1295

O. C. Harper, IV  
Vice President - Resources Planning and  
Nuclear Development  
Georgia Power Company  
241 Ralph McGill Boulevard  
Atlanta, GA 30308

Mr. Steven M. Jackson  
Senior Engineer - Power Supply  
Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia  
1470 Riveredge Parkway, NW  
Atlanta, GA 30328-4684

David H. Jones  
Site Vice President  
Plant Vogtle - ATTN: Units 3 & 4  
7825 River Road  
Waynesboro, GA 30830

Mr. Reece McAlister  
Executive Secretary  
Georgia Public Service Commission  
Atlanta, GA 30334

Mr. Thomas O. McCallum  
Site Development Project Engineer  
Southern Nuclear Operating Co., Inc.  
PO Box 1295  
Birmingham, AL 35201-1295

COL - Vogtle Mailing List

Mr. James H. Miller  
President & Chief Executive Officer  
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1295  
Birmingham, AL 35201

Mr. Wesley A. Sparkman  
COL Project Engineer  
Southern Nuclear Operating Co., Inc.  
P.O. Box 1295  
Birmingham, AL 35201-1295

Mr. Joseph (Buzz) Miller  
Executive Vice President  
Nuclear Development  
P.O. Box 1295  
Birmingham, AL 35201-1295

Gene Stilp  
1550 Fishing Creek Valley Road  
Harrisburg, PA 17112

Mr. Thomas Moorer  
Environmental Project Manager  
Southern Nuclear Operating Co., Inc.  
PO Box 1295  
Birmingham, AL 35201-1295

Mr. Robert E. Sweeney  
IBEX ESI  
4641 Montgomery Avenue  
Suite 350  
Bethesda, MD 20814

Mr. Charles R. Pierce  
Vogtle Deployment Licensing Manager  
Southern Nuclear Operating Co., Inc.  
PO Box 1295  
Birmingham, AL 35201-1295

Resident Inspector  
Vogtle Plant  
8805 River Road  
Waynesboro, GA 30830

Resident Manager  
Oglethorpe Power Corporation  
Alvin W. Vogtle Nuclear Plant  
7821 River Road  
Waynesboro, GA 30830

Mr. Jerry Smith  
Commissioner  
District 8  
Augusta-Richmond County Commission  
1332 Brown Road  
Hephzibah, GA 30815

## COL - Vogtle Mailing List

### Email

APH@NEI.org (Adrian Heymer)  
awc@nei.org (Anne W. Cottingham)  
BrinkmCB@westinghouse.com (Charles Brinkman)  
chris.maslak@ge.com (Chris Maslak)  
crpierce@southernco.com (C.R. Pierce)  
cwaltman@roe.com (C. Waltman)  
david.hinds@ge.com (David Hinds)  
david.lewis@pillsburylaw.com (David Lewis)  
erg-xl@cox.net (Eddie R. Grant)  
greshaja@westinghouse.com (James Gresham)  
james.beard@gene.ge.com (James Beard)  
jgutierrez@morganlewis.com (Jay M. Gutierrez)  
jim.riccio@wdc.greenpeace.org (James Riccio)  
jim@ncwarn.org (Jim Warren)  
JJNesrsta@cpsenergy.com (James J. Nesrsta)  
John.O'Neill@pillsburylaw.com (John O'Neill)  
Joseph\_Hegner@dom.com (Joseph Hegner)  
KSutton@morganlewis.com (Kathryn M. Sutton)  
kwaugh@impact-net.org (Kenneth O. Waugh)  
lchandler@morganlewis.com (Lawrence J. Chandler)  
Marc.Brooks@dhs.gov (Marc Brooks)  
maria.webb@pillsburylaw.com (Maria Webb)  
mark.beaumont@wsms.com (Mark Beaumont)  
matias.travieso-diaz@pillsburylaw.com (Matias Travieso-Diaz)  
mcaston@southernco.com (Moanica Caston)  
media@nei.org (Scott Peterson)  
mike\_moran@fpl.com (Mike Moran)  
MSF@nei.org (Marvin Fertel)  
nirsnet@nirs.org (Michael Mariotte)  
patriciaL.campbell@ge.com (Patricia L. Campbell)  
paul.gaukler@pillsburylaw.com (Paul Gaukler)  
Paul@beyondnuclear.org (Paul Gunter)  
pshastings@duke-energy.com (Peter Hastings)  
RJB@NEI.org (Russell Bell)  
RKTemple@cpsenergy.com (R.K. Temple)  
sabinski@suddenlink.net (Steve A. Bennett)  
sandra.sloan@areva.com (Sandra Sloan)  
sfrantz@morganlewis.com (Stephen P. Frantz)  
stephan.moen@ge.com (Stephan Moen)  
steven.hucik@ge.com (Steven Hucik)  
tomccall@southernco.com (Tom McCallum)  
Vanessa.quinn@dhs.gov (Vanessa Quinn)  
VictorB@bv.com (Bill Victor)  
Wanda.K.Marshall@dom.com (Wanda K. Marshall)

COL - Bellefonte Mailing List

(Revised 03/25/2009)

cc:

Ms. Michele Boyd  
Legislative Director  
Energy Program  
Public Citizens Critical Mass Energy  
and Environmental Program  
215 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20003

Mr. Ronald Kinney  
South Carolina DHEC  
2600 Bull Street  
Columbia, SC 29201



## COL - Bellefonte Mailing List

### Email

alsterdis@tva.gov (Andrea Sterdis)  
APAGLIA@Scana.com (Al Paglia)  
APH@NEI.org (Adrian Heymer)  
awc@nei.org (Anne W. Cottingham)  
BrinkmCB@westinghouse.com (Charles Brinkman)  
cberger@energetics.com (Carl Berger)  
chris.maslak@ge.com (Chris Maslak)  
CumminWE@Westinghouse.com (Edward W. Cummins)  
cwaltman@roe.com (C. Waltman)  
david.lewis@pillsburylaw.com (David Lewis)  
eddie.grant@excelservices.com (Eddie Grant)  
ejvigluicci@tva.gov (Edward Vigluicci)  
garry.miller@pgnmail.com (Garry D. Miller)  
GovePA@BV.com (Patrick Gove)  
greshaja@westinghouse.com (James Gresham)  
gwcurtis2@tva.gov (G. W. Curtis)  
gzinke@entergy.com (George Alan Zinke)  
jgutierrez@morganlewis.com (Jay M. Gutierrez)  
jim.riccio@wdc.greenpeace.org (James Riccio)  
JNesrsta@cpsenergy.com (James J. Nesrsta)  
John.O'Neill@pillsburylaw.com (John O'Neill)  
Joseph\_Hegner@dom.com (Joseph Hegner)  
KSutton@morganlewis.com (Kathryn M. Sutton)  
kwaugh@impact-net.org (Kenneth O. Waugh)  
lchandler@morganlewis.com (Lawrence J. Chandler)  
lgorenflo@gmail.com (L. Gorenflo)  
Marc.Brooks@dhs.gov (Marc Brooks)  
maria.webb@pillsburylaw.com (Maria Webb)  
mark.beaumont@wsms.com (Mark Beaumont)  
Martha.Shields@nuclear.energy.gov (Martha Shields)  
matias.travieso-diaz@pillsburylaw.com (Matias Travieso-Diaz)  
media@nei.org (Scott Peterson)  
mgiles@entergy.com (M. Giles)  
mike\_moran@fpl.com (Mike Moran)  
MSF@nei.org (Marvin Fertel)  
nirsnet@nirs.org (Michael Mariotte)  
patriciaL.campbell@ge.com (Patricia L. Campbell)  
paul.gaukler@pillsburylaw.com (Paul Gaukler)  
Paul@beyondnuclear.org (Paul Gunter)  
pmray@tva.gov (Phil Ray)  
pshastings@duke-energy.com (Peter Hastings)  
rclary@scana.com (Ronald Clary)  
rgrumbir@gmail.com (Richard Grumbir)  
RJB@NEI.org (Russell Bell)

COL - Bellefonte Mailing List

RKTemple@cpsenergy.com (R.K. Temple)  
sabinski@suddenlink.net (Steve A. Bennett)  
sandra.sloan@areva.com (Sandra Sloan)  
SauerB@BV.com (Robert C. Sauer)  
savance@tva.gov (Scott A. Vance)  
sfrantz@morganlewis.com (Stephen P. Frantz)  
stephan.moen@ge.com (Stephan Moen)  
tdurkin@energetics.com (Tim Durkin)  
tom.miller@hq.doe.gov (Tom Miller)  
Vanessa.quinn@dhs.gov (Vanessa Quinn)  
VictorB@bv.com (Bill Victor)  
Wanda.K.Marshall@dom.com (Wanda K. Marshall)