



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

November 12, 2009

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

SUBJECT: UPCOMING NRC INSPECTION ACTIVITIES

Dear Mr. Miller:

The NRC's issuance of an Early Site Permit (ESP) and Limited Work Authorization (LWA) to Southern Nuclear Operating Company (the applicant) on August 26, 2009, authorized limited construction activities for two new nuclear reactors at the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant site. The on-site construction activities allowed by the LWA include placement of engineered backfill, retaining walls, lean concrete, mudmats, and a waterproof membrane.

The NRC will conduct construction oversight inspections to verify that those activities authorized by the LWA are conducted in accordance with regulatory requirements. LWA authorized activities and their associated Quality Assurance programs will be the main areas of inspection focus.

Inspections of LWA-authorized construction will be conducted by NRC specialists based in Region II and will begin in late 2009 with a Fitness for Duty Inspection, followed by a QA program inspection in the first Quarter of 2010 and other subsequent construction-related inspections as appropriate. The NRC plans to begin staffing the Vogtle site with Construction Resident Inspectors in mid-2010. Inspections by the Construction Resident Inspectors will be supplemented with periodic inspections from region-based specialists. Subsequent inspections of activities will be conducted based on the site construction schedule.

The NRC inspection of construction activities are described in NRC Inspection Manual Chapters 2503, "Construction Inspection Program: Inspections of Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria (ITAAC)"; 2504, "Construction Inspection Program – Inspection of Construction and Operational Programs"; and 2507, "Construction Inspection Program: Vendor Inspections". Periodic assessments of licensee performance will also be conducted as described in NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 2505, "Periodic Assessment of Construction Inspection Program Results". Inspection findings will be documented in accordance with Manual Chapter 0613, "Documenting 10 CFR Part 52 Construction and Test Inspections".

Should you have any questions regarding our inspection activities, please contact me at 404-562-5995.

Sincerely,

/RA/

David A. Ayres, Chief
Construction Projects Branch 4
Division of Construction Projects

Docket No. 52-011

cc: See next page

The NRC inspection of construction activities are described in NRC Inspection Manual Chapters 2503, "Construction Inspection Program: Inspections of Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria (ITAAC)"; 2504, "Construction Inspection Program – Inspection of Construction and Operational Programs"; and 2507, "Construction Inspection Program: Vendor Inspections". Periodic assessments of licensee performance will also be conducted as described in NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 2505, "Periodic Assessment of Construction Inspection Program Results". Inspection findings will be documented in accordance with Manual Chapter 0613, "Documenting 10 CFR Part 52 Construction and Test Inspections".

Should you have any questions regarding our inspection activities, please contact me at 404-562-5995.

Sincerely,

/RA/

David A. Ayres, Chief
 Construction Projects Branch 4
 Division of Construction Projects

Docket No. 52-011

cc: See next page

PUBLICLY AVAILABLE
 NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE
 SENSITIVE
 NON-SENSITIVE
 ADAMS: Yes
 ACCESSION NUMBER: ML093160703
 SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE

OFFICE	RII:DCP	RII:DCP					
SIGNATURE	DAA	RC					
NAME	D Ayres	R Croteau					
DATE	11/12/09	11/12/09					
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY DOCUMENT NAME: G:\CCI\INSPECTION PLANS\NEW REACTORS\VOGTLE\INSPECTION STARTS AT VOGTLE REV 3.DOC

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Letter to J. A. "Buzz" Miller from David Ayres date November 12, 2009

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