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

March 11, 2010

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

SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION OF VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT - COMPONENT DESIGN BASES INSPECTION - NRC INSPECTION REPORT 05000424/2010007 AND 05000425/2010007

Dear Mr. Tynan:

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Region II staff will conduct a component design bases inspection at Vogtle Nuclear Plant during the period of June 14-July 16, 2010. The inspection team will be led by Mr. Robert Berryman, a Senior Reactor Inspector from the NRC's Region II Office. This inspection will be conducted in accordance with the baseline inspection procedure, Procedure 71111.21, Component Design Bases Inspection, issued August 19, 2008.

The inspection will evaluate the capability of risk significant / low margin components to function as designed and to support proper system operation. The inspection will also include a review of selected operator actions, operating experience, and modifications.

During a telephone conversation on March 3, 2010, Mr. Berryman confirmed, with Mr. Doug McKinney of your staff, arrangements for an information gathering site visit and the three-week onsite inspection. The schedule is as follows:

- Information gathering visit: Week of April 26-30, 2010.
- Onsite weeks: Weeks of June 14-18, June 28-July 2, and July 12-16, 2010.

The purpose of the information gathering visit is to meet with members of your staff to identify risk-significant components and operator actions. Information and documentation needed to support the inspection will also be identified and gathered or requested. Mr. George MacDonald, a Region II Senior Reactor Analyst, may accompany Mr. Berryman during the information gathering visit to review probabilistic risk assessment data and identify risk significant components which will be examined during the inspection.

The enclosure lists documents that will be needed prior to the information gathering visit. Please contact Mr. Berryman with any questions prior to preparing materials listed in the enclosure and provide the referenced information to the Region II office by April 15, 2010. The inspectors will try to minimize your administrative burden by specifically identifying only those documents required for the inspection preparation.

During the information gathering visit, the team leader will also discuss the following inspection support administrative details: office space; site, plant and information system access; required resources; and information exchange protocol.

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

This letter does not contain new or amended information collection requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). Existing information collection requirements were approved by the Office of Management and Budget, control number 3150-0011.

The NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a request for information or an information collection requirement unless the requesting document displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget control number.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions regarding the information requested or the inspection, please contact Mr. Berryman at (404) 562-4817 or me at (404) 562-4519.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Binoy B. Desai, Chief
Engineering Branch 1
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos.: 50-424, 50-425
License Nos.: NPF-68, NPF-81

Enclosure: Information Request for Vogtle Electric Generating Plant Component Design Bases Inspection

cc w/encl: (See page 3)

cc w/encl:

Managing Attorney and Compliance Officer
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

B. D. McKinney, Jr.
Regulatory Response Manager
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

Hickox, T. Mark
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant
Electronic Mail Distribution

N. J. Stringfellow
Licensing Manager
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

T. D. Honeycutt
Regulatory Response Supervisor
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

Jeffrey T. Gasser
Executive Vice President
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

L. Mike Stinson
Vice President
Fleet Operations Support
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

Paula Marino
Vice President
Engineering
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

Bob Masse
Resident Manager
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Electronic Mail Distribution

Moanica Caston
Vice President and General Counsel
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

Chris Clark
Commissioner
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Electronic Mail Distribution

Lee Foley
Manager of Contracts Generation
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Electronic Mail Distribution

F. Allen Barnes
Director
Environmental Protection Division
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Electronic Mail Distribution

Cynthia A. Sanders
Radioactive Materials Program Manager
Environmental Protection Division
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Electronic Mail Distribution

James A. Sommerville
Program Coordination Branch Chief
Environmental Protection Division
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Electronic Mail Distribution

James C. Hardeman
Environmental Radiation Program Manager
Environmental Protection Division
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Electronic Mail Distribution

Ted V. Jackson
Emergency Response and Radiation
Program Manager
Environmental Protection Division
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Electronic Mail Distribution

(cc w/encl cont'd – See page 4)

(cc w/encl cont'd)
Mr. Steven M. Jackson
Senior Engineer - Power Supply
Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia
Electronic Mail Distribution

Mr. Reece McAlister
Executive Secretary
Georgia Public Service Commission
Electronic Mail Distribution

Office of the Attorney General
Electronic Mail Distribution

Office of the County Commissioner
Burke County Commission
Electronic Mail Distribution

Arthur H. Domby, Esq.
Troutman Sanders
Electronic Mail Distribution

Director
Consumers' Utility Counsel Division
Govenor's Office of Consumer Affairs
2 M. L. King, Jr. Drive
Plaza Level East; Suite 356
Atlanta, GA 30334-4600

Senior Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant
U.S. NRC
7821 River Road
Waynesboro, GA 30830

Susan E. Jenkins
Director, Division of Waste Management
Bureau of Land and Waste Management
S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control
Electronic Mail Distribution

Letter to Tom E. Tynan from Binoy Desai dated March 11, 2010.

SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION OF VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT - COMPONENT DESIGN BASES INSPECTION - NRC INSPECTION REPORT 05000424/2010007 AND 05000425/2010007

Distribution w/encl:
RIDSNRRDIRS
PUBLIC
RidsNrrPMVogtle Resource

x☐ PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ☐ NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE x☐ SENSITIVE ☐ NON-SENSITIVE

ADAMS: x ☐ Yes ACCESSION NUMBER:_____ x☐ SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE

OFFICE	RII:DRS	RII:DRS					
SIGNATURE	RA	RA					
NAME	RBERRYMAN	BDESAI					
DATE	3/8/2010	3/11/2010					
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY DOCUMENT NAME: S:\DRS\ENG BRANCH 1\BRANCH INSPECTION FILES\CDBI INSPECTIONS\CDBI INSPECTIONS\NOTIFICATION LETTERS\VOGTLE CDBI NOTIFICATION 2010007 (RMB).DOC

INFORMATION REQUEST FOR VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT COMPONENT DESIGN BASES INSPECTION

Please provide the information electronically in ".pdf" files, Excel, or other searchable format on CDROM. The CDROM should be indexed and possibly hyperlinked to facilitate ease of use. Information in "lists" should contain enough information to be easily understood to someone who has knowledge of pressurized water reactor technology.

1. From your most recent probabilistic safety analysis (PSA) **excluding** external events and fires, please provide:

    a. Two risk rankings of components from your site-specific probabilistic safety analysis (PSA) – one sorted by Risk Achievement Worth (RAW), and the other sorted by Birnbaum Importance.
    b. A list of the top 500 cutsets.

2. From your most recent probabilistic safety analysis (PSA) **including** external events and fires, please provide:

    a. Two risk rankings of components from your site-specific probabilistic safety analysis (PSA) – one sorted by Risk Achievement Worth (RAW), and the other sorted by Birnbaum Importance.
    b. A list of the top 500 cutsets.

3. Risk ranking of operator actions from your site specific PSA sorted by RAW. Provide copies of your human reliability worksheets for these items.

4. Any pre-existing evaluation or list of components and calculations with low design margins (i.e., pumps closest to the design limit for flow or pressure, diesel generator close to design required output, heat exchangers close to rated design heat removal, MOV risk-margin rankings, etc.).

5. A list of station applicability evaluations/reviews performed and documented in the station corrective action program in the past two years for industry events, critical equipment failures, and safety related equipment vulnerabilities (as communicated by NRC generic communications, industry communications, 10 CFR Part 21 notifications, etc.).

6. A list of operability evaluations completed within the last two years, sorted by associated component or system.

7. A list of **common-cause failures** of components that have occurred at Vogtle Electric Generating Plant and have been identified within the last five years.

8. A list of equipment currently planned for upgrade/improvement by the site (e.g. "ONE" List), including a description of the reason(s) why each **component** (i.e. not a programmatic or system level concern) is on that list and summaries (if available) of your plans to address those reasons.

9. A list of equipment currently in RIS 05-020 (formerly GL 91-18) status, or in MR (a)(1) status.

10. Contact information for a person to discuss PRA information prior to the information gathering trip: name, title, phone number, and e-mail address.

Enclosure