November 4, 2010

MEMORANDUM TO: Edwin M. Hackett, Executive Director

Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards

FROM: David B. Matthews, Director / RA Frank Akstulewicz for/

Division of New Reactor Licensing

Office of New Reactors

SUBJECT: VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT UNITS 3 AND 4

COMBINED LICENSE APPLICATION - ADVANCED SAFETY EVALUATION WITHOUT OPEN ITEMS FOR CHAPTER 19,

"PROBABILISTIC RISK ASSESSMENT"

By letter dated March 28, 2008 (ML081050133), Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) submitted an application to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for a combined license (COL) for Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 3 and 4.

Based on our review of the application, the staff is providing the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) its Advanced Safety Evaluation (ASE), without open items for Chapter 19, "Probabilistic Risk Assessment" (ML092650121). The Chapter 19 ASE does not contain Appendix 19A, "Loss of Large Area of the Plant due to Explosions or Fires." The staff intends to provide Appendix 19A at a later date. Unless otherwise stated in the ASE, the staff's review was based on Revision 2 of the application. The ASE is being provided to support a meeting of the subcommittee of the ACRS scheduled for December 2010. The ACRS Full Committee meeting will be held after the subcommittee meeting.

The staff has reviewed the ASE and found no topics that meet the categories of interest that ACRS members would like to review in detail.

CONTACT: Ravi Joshi, NRO/DNRL

301-415-6191

E. Hackett -2-

The staff concludes that the ASE does not contain any information exempt from public disclosure. However, the NRC will withhold the ASE from public disclosure for ten business days to allow SNC the opportunity to verify the staff's conclusion that the ASE contains no such exempt information. Therefore, the staff requests that the ACRS withhold the ASE from public disclosure until it has been released publicly in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS).

The staff will inform the ACRS immediately if SNC requests that any of the information in the ASE be withheld from public disclosure.

Docket Nos. 52-025

52-026

E. Hackett -2-

The staff concludes that the ASE does not contain any information exempt from public disclosure. However, the NRC will withhold the ASE from public disclosure for ten business days to allow SNC the opportunity to verify the staff's conclusion that the ASE contains no such exempt information. Therefore, the staff requests that the ACRS withhold the ASE from public disclosure until it has been released publicly in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS).

The staff will inform the ACRS immediately if SNC requests that any of the information in the ASE be withheld from public disclosure.

Docket Nos. 52-025

52-026

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ADAMS Accession Numbers: PKG: ML092610578 SE: ML092650121

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NRO-002

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