



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

May 18, 2010

Mr. Dennis R. Madison
Vice President
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant
11028 Hatch Parkway North
Baxley, GA 31513

SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT FOLLOW-UP LETTER – EDWIN I. HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT
UNIT 2

Dear Mr. Madison:

On May 12, 2010, the NRC staff forwarded a letter concerning the final significance determination of a White inspection finding in the Mitigating Systems cornerstone. As a result of our review, we have assessed Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant Unit 2's performance to be in the Degraded Cornerstone column of the NRC's Action Matrix. A previous White finding in the Mitigating Systems cornerstone associated with the 1B Emergency Diesel Generator (EDG) coupling failure was issued in the first quarter of 2009 and was on the action matrix for the 2009 calendar year. This combined with the current White finding resulted in two White findings in the same cornerstone during the fourth quarter of 2009. In accordance with Manual Chapter 0305, Operating Reactor assessment Program, a supplemental inspection (Inspection Procedure 95002) is required. As the White finding associated with the 1B EDG coupling failure has already received a supplemental inspection (Inspection Procedure 95001), the NRC will take this into account in defining the scope of the required 95002 inspection. This letter supplements, but does not supersede, our annual assessment letter issued on March 3, 2010. Unit 1 remains in the Licensee Response Column of the Action Matrix.

We will conduct the supplemental inspection (Inspection Procedure 95002) when you have notified us of your readiness for the NRC to review the actions taken to address this issue. This inspection will review the white inspection finding issued in the May 12, 2010, final significance determination letter as well as any commonalities with the White finding associated with the 1B EDG coupling failure. This inspection procedure is conducted to provide assurance that the root and contributing causes for the individual and collective risk significant performance issues are understood, to independently assess the extent of condition, to provide assurance that the corrective actions are sufficient to prevent recurrence, and to independently determine if safety culture components caused or significantly contributed to individual and collective risk-significant performance issues associated with the violation above.

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2

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's Rules of Practice, a copy of this letter will be made 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).

Please contact Mr. Scott Shaeffer at (404) 997-4521 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the scope of the planned supplemental inspection.

Sincerely,

/RA By Leonard Wert For/

Luis A. Reyes
Regional Administrator

Docket No.: 50-366
License No.: NPF-5

cc: (See page 3)

SNC

2

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4

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5

Letter to Dennis R. Madison from Luis A. Reyes dated May 18, 2010

SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT FOLLOW-UP LETTER – EDWIN I. HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT
UNIT 2

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