

November 19, 2010

MEMORANDUM TO: Edwin M. Hackett, Executive Director
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards

FROM: David B. Matthews, Director **/RA Jeffrey Cruz for/**
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

SUBJECT: VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION UNITS 2 AND 3
COMBINED LICENSE APPLICATION - ADVANCED SAFETY
EVALUATION WITHOUT OPEN ITEMS FOR CHAPTER 13,
SECTION 13.3, "EMERGENCY PLANNING"

By letter dated March 27, 2008, South Carolina Electric & Gas (SCE&G) submitted an application to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for a combined license (COL) for Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station (VCSNS), Units 2 and 3.

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 13, Section 13.3, "Emergency Planning" (ML102020681). The staff intends to provide the remaining portions of Chapter 13, "Conduct of Operations" under a separate memorandum. 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 intends to present information from Section 13.3 to the Subcommittee because of the following reasons:

- the precedent that was set with the Vogtle Units 3 and 4 early site permit (ESP) that included an ACRS review of the applicant's emergency plan,
- the limited amount of standard material contained in Section 13.3 of the VCSNS COL application

Previous interactions with the ACRS on the Vogtle Units 3 and 4 ESP that was issued included detailed discussions related to emergency planning. The staff believes that a similar interaction with the ACRS on Summer Section 13.3 would be beneficial. In addition, because of the limited amount of standard material contained in Section 13.3 of the VCSNS COL application, the staff could not take advantage of the design-centered review approach that allows the staff to perform one review for each standard technical issue in a COL application.

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Although the staff believes interactions with the ACRS on all portions of Section 13.3 of the VCSNS COL application and associated emergency plan are appropriate, the staff notes the following regarding Section 13.3 of the SER that may be of particular interest to the ACRS:

- The size of Units 2 and 3's emergency planning zone (EPZ). Summer Units 2 and 3 are approximately 1 mile southwest of the existing Unit 1. The EPZ for Units 2 and 3 is based on the existing Unit 1 EPZ. The staff's evaluation, which is based on the Federal Emergency Management Agency's evaluation, is discussed in the attached ASE.
- The location of the Units 2 and 3 technical support center (TSC). The proposed TSC is outside of the protected area of Units 2 and 3 and approximately 2500 feet from the control rooms of Units 2 and 3. The staff's evaluation of the proposed TSC location is discussed in the attached ASE.

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 SCE&G 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.

The staff will inform the ACRS immediately if SCE&G request that any of the information in the ASE be withheld from public disclosure.

Docket Nos. 52-027
52-028

Although the staff believes interactions with the ACRS on all portions of Section 13.3 of the VCSNS COL application and associated emergency plan are appropriate, the staff notes the following regarding Section 13.3 of the SER that may be of particular interest to the ACRS:

- The size of Units 2 and 3's emergency planning zone (EPZ). Summer Units 2 and 3 are approximately 1 mile southwest of the existing Unit 1. The EPZ for Units 2 and 3 is based on the existing Unit 1 EPZ. The staff's evaluation, which is based on the Federal Emergency Management Agency's evaluation, is discussed in the attached ASE.
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