



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

September 1, 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: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN – EDWIN I.  
HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT

Dear Mr. Madison:

On August 10, 2010, the NRC staff completed its performance review of the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant. Our technical staff reviewed performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the period from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility. This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include security information. A separate letter, marked as "Official Use Only - Security Related Information," will include the security cornerstone review and resultant inspection plan.

Plant performance for Unit 1 for the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Action Matrix based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all PIs indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green).

Plant performance for Unit 2 for the most recent quarter was within the Degraded Cornerstone column of the NRC's Action matrix based on a previous White finding in the Mitigating Systems cornerstone associated with the 1B Emergency Diesel Generator (EDG) coupling failure issued in the first quarter of 2009 and remained on the action matrix for the 2009 calendar year. This, combined with a White finding issued in the fourth quarter of 2009 for failure to establish and perform preventive maintenance activities to replace aged electrolytic capacitors, 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 has taken this into account when we defined the scope of the required 95002.

On June 22, 2010, we were notified by your staff of your readiness for the NRC to conduct a supplemental inspection to review the actions taken to address the 1B EDG coupling failure and the aged electrolytic capacitor issues. We conducted supplemental inspection 95002 the week of August 23, 2010. This inspection reviewed 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 was conducted to provide assurance that the root and contributing causes for the individual and collective risk significant performance issues were understood, to independently assess the extent of cause, to provide assurance that the corrective actions were sufficient to prevent recurrence, and to independently determine if safety culture components caused or significantly contributed to individual and collective risk-significant performance issues. The results of this inspection will be documented in inspection report 50-321 and 50-366/2010007.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, less those related to physical protection scheduled through December 31, 2011. The inspection plan is provided to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues well in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle review. We also plan on conducting Operator Licensing Examinations, Temporary Instruction 2515/179 "Verification of Licensee Responses for Inventories of Materials Tracked in National Source Tracking System," and an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation inspection.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure 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.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If circumstances arise which cause us to change this inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact Scott Shaeffer at (404) 997-4521 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Luis A. Reyes  
Regional Administrator

Docket Nos.: 50-321, 50-366  
License Nos.: DPR-57, NPF-5

Enclosure: Hatch Inspection/ Activity Plan (09/01/2010 – 12/31/2011)

cc w/encl: (See page 3)

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X PUBLICLY AVAILABLE                       NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE                       SENSITIVE                      X NON-SENSITIVE  
ADAMS:  Yes      ACCESSION NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_                       SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE

OFFICE	RII:DRP	RII:DRP	RII:DRP	RII:ORA	RII:ORA		
SIGNATURE	TXL /RA/	SDR /RA for/	JTM /RA for/	LAR /RA for/	LAR /RA/		
NAME	TLighty	SShaeffer	LWert	VMcCree	LReyes		
DATE	08/31/2010	08/31/2010	08/31/2010	09/01/2010	09/01/2010		
E-MAIL COPY?	YES      NO	YES      NO	YES      NO	YES      NO	YES      NO	YES      NO	YES      NO

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY                      DOCUMENT NAME:

cc w/encl:

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(cc w/encl continued)

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Letter to Dennis R. Madison from Leonard D. Wert, Jr. dated September 1, 2010

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN – EDWIN I.  
HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT

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Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO)