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ND-10-1816

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Southern Nuclear Operating Company
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant Units 3 and 4 Combined License Application
Voluntary Revision to Final Safety Analysis Report Chapter 3

Ladies and Gentlemen:

By letter dated March 28, 2008, Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) submitted an application for combined licenses (COLs) for proposed Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) Units 3 and 4 to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for two Westinghouse AP1000 reactor plants, in accordance with 10 CFR Part 52. As the Reference COL applicant (R-COLA) for the AP1000 reactor plant, SNC provided a COL application change to address the use of American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Standard ASCE 7 on June 18, 2010 by letter ND-10-1200. Based on subsequent discussion with the NRC staff, additional information is provided in the enclosure to this letter. The COL application changes indicated in the enclosure were incorporated in the COL application revision submitted by letter dated August 6, 2010.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. Wes Sparkman at (205) 992-5061 or Ms. Amy Aughtman at (205) 992-5805.

D092
NRC

Mr. B. L. Ivey states he is a Vice President of Southern Nuclear Operating Company, is authorized to execute this oath on behalf of Southern Nuclear Operating Company and to the best of his knowledge and belief, the facts set forth in this letter are true.

Respectfully submitted,

SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY


B. L. Ivey

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 20th day of September, 2010

Notary Public: Nancy Louise Henderson

My commission expires: March 23, 2014

BLI/BJS

Enclosure: VEGP Units 3 and 4 COL Application - Revision to R-COLA FSAR Chapter 3



cc: Southern Nuclear Operating Company

Mr. J. H. Miller, III, President and CEO (w/o enclosure)
Mr. J. A. Miller, Executive Vice President, Nuclear Development (w/o enclosure)
Mr. J. T. Gasser, Executive Vice President, Nuclear Operations (w/o enclosure)
Mr. D. H. Jones, Site Vice President, Vogtle 3 & 4 (w/o enclosure)
Mr. T. E. Tynan, Vice President - Vogtle (w/o enclosure)
Mr. M. K. Smith, Technical Support Director (w/o enclosure)
Mr. D. M. Lloyd, Vogtle 3 & 4 Project Support Director (w/o enclosure)
Mr. C. R. Pierce, AP1000 Licensing Manager
Mr. M. J. Ajluni, Nuclear Licensing Manager
Mr. T. C. Moorer, Manager, Environmental Affairs, Chemistry and Rad. Services
Mr. J. D. Williams, Vogtle 3 & 4 Site Support Manager
Mr. J. T. Davis, Vogtle 3 & 4 Site Licensing Supervisor
Mr. W. A. Sparkman, COL Project Engineer
Ms. A. G. Aughtman, Lead AP1000 Licensing Project Engineer
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Mr. J. D. Fuller, Senior Resident Inspector of VEGP 3 & 4

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Ms. A. N. Faulk, Nuclear Regulatory Affairs Manager

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Mr. D. A. Lindgren, Principal Engineer, AP1000 Licensing and Customer Interface

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Mr. R. H. Kitchen, PGN
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Southern Nuclear Operating Company

ND-10-1816

Enclosure

VEGP Units 3 and 4 COL Application

Revision to R-COLA FSAR

Chapter 3

NuStart Qb Tracking No. 4194
VEGP COL 03.03-01

FSAR Section 3.3.1.1 currently states:

The wind velocity characteristics for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 3 and 4 (VEGP), are given in ESPA SSAR Subsection 2.3.1.3.1. Per ASCE 7-95 and the topography of the VEGP site per ESPA SSAR Figure 2.5.1-32, Site Topographic Map, the topographical factor for wind design is 1.00. Also, per ASCE 7-95, the importance factor is 1.15. These values are bounded by the design wind velocity values given in DCD Subsection 3.3.1.1 for the AP1000 plant.

This reference to American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Standard ASCE 7-95 is inconsistent with the early site permit application (ESPA) references to ASCE 7-02 utilized to develop the site characteristics for this parameter, and with the AP1000 DCD basis which utilizes ASCE 7-98. Furthermore, the references and information are merely references to information already provided in the ESPA Site Safety Analysis Report (SSAR) and will be removed as shown in the COL Application Revisions section below. These changes will be incorporated in a future revision of the COL application.

The basic wind speed curves, exposure category descriptions and tables, and topographic effects criteria of ASCE 7-98 (the version utilized by Westinghouse in the AP1000 DCD) have been compared to those features of ASCE 7-02 (the version used by SNC in establishing the wind velocity characteristics), and it has been determined that the wind velocity characteristics are not impacted by use of the later revision of ASCE 7.

This response is PLANT-SPECIFIC.

The changes shown below were incorporated in the COL application revision submittal dated August 6, 2010.

Associated VEGP COL Application Revisions:

COLA Part 2, FSAR Chapter 3, Subsection 3.3.1.1, will be revised from:

The wind velocity characteristics for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 3 and 4 (VEGP), are given in ESPA SSAR Subsection 2.3.1.3.1. Per ASCE 7-95 and the topography of the VEGP site per ESPA SSAR Figure 2.5.1-32, Site Topographic Map, the topographical factor for wind design is 1.00. Also, per ASCE 7-95, the importance factor is 1.15. These values are bounded by the design wind velocity values given in DCD Subsection 3.3.1.1 for the AP1000 plant.

To read:

The wind velocity characteristics for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 3 and 4 (VEGP), are given in ESPA SSAR Subsection 2.3.1.3.1. These values are bounded by the design wind velocity values given in DCD Subsection 3.3.1.1 for the AP1000 plant.