



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

December 8, 2010

Mr. Mark J. Ajluni
Manager, Nuclear Licensing
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
40 Inverness Center Parkway
P.O. Box 1295
Birmingham, Alabama 35201

SUBJECT: FARLEY NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2, AND HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT,
UNITS 1 AND 2, ACCEPTANCE REVIEW REGARDING LICENSE
AMENDMENT REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION CHANGES
(TAC NOS. ME5055, ME5056, ME5016, AND ME5017)

Dear Mr. Ajluni:

By letters dated October 29, 2010, (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Nos. ML103140605 and ML103140510), the Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc (SNC), submitted requests to revise the Technical Specifications (TSs), in Appendix A to Facility Operating Licenses for the Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant (FNP), Units 1 and 2 and the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant (HNP), Units 1 and 2, respectively. The changes would modify the TSs by relocating specific surveillance frequencies to a licensee-controlled program in accordance with Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF) 425-A, Revision 3. The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of the applications. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to conduct a detailed technical review. The acceptance review is also intended to identify whether the applications have any readily apparent information insufficiencies in their characterization of the regulatory requirements or the licensing basis of the plants.

The NRC staff has reviewed your applications and concludes that they do provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the staff to proceed with its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of SNC's request in terms of regulatory requirements.

SNC's letters of October 29, 2010, repeat a statement made in SNC's letter of June 15, 2010 (ADAMS Accession No. ML101690441), on this subject for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, namely that the availability of this TS improvement was announced in the *Federal Register* (FR) on July 6, 2009 (74 FR 31996), as part of the consolidated line item improvement process (CLIIP). The NRC staff responded to that statement in its letter dated July 19, 2010 (ADAMS Accession No. ML101930277), noting that the TSTF-425 changes have not been identified as a CLIIP item. The NRC staff considers that response to also be applicable to the FNP and HNP applications of October 29, 2010. Accordingly, the NRC staff plans to complete its review of the applications within 12 months from receipt of the applications.

M. Ajluni

- 2 -

If additional information is needed for the staff to complete its technical review, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Martin, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-348, 50-364, 50-321, and 50-366

cc: Distribution via Listserv

M. Ajluni

- 2 -

If additional information is needed for the staff to complete its technical review, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Robert E. Martin, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-348, 50-364, 50-321, and 50-366

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