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Docket No.: 50-321

NL-11-0317

Mr. Victor McCree
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region II
Marquis One Tower
245 Peachtree Center Avenue N.E., Suite 1200
Atlanta, GA 30303

Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant - Unit 1
Request for Earlier Date for Unit 1 IP 71003 Phase 1 Inspection

Ladies and Gentlemen:

NRC inspection procedure (IP) 71003, "Post-Approval Site Inspection for License Renewal" states in part that portions of the inspection program may be performed during the unit outage preceding the extended operation date (these activities are commonly referred to as the IP 73001 phase 1 inspection). For Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant (HNP) Unit 1, the outage preceding the extended operation date is 1R26 in the spring of 2014, and HNP Unit 1 enters the period of extended operation on August 7, 2014. Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) requests that the phase 1 IP 71003 inspection for HNP Unit 1 be scheduled for 1R25 in February 2012. This revised inspection schedule will allow any follow-up inspections to be performed before HNP Unit 1 enters the extended period of operation. All outage one-time license renewal inspections for HNP Unit 1 are planned for the 1R25 outage, so the staff's best opportunity to observe these inspections will be during that outage. In order to be ready for the phase 1 portion of the IP 71003 inspection, SNC intends to have implemented those license renewal commitments necessary to support the phase 1 portion of the inspection.

This letter contains no NRC commitments. If you have any questions, please advise.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark J. Ajluni". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "M".

M. J. Ajluni
Nuclear Licensing Director

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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

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cc: Southern Nuclear Operating Company
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Ms. P. M. Marino, Vice President – Engineering
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