



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

November 29, 2011

Mr. M. J. Ajluni
Nuclear Licensing Director
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
40 Inverness Center Parkway
Post Office Box 1295, Bin – 038
Birmingham, AL 35201-1295

SUBJECT: VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 (VOGTLE 1 AND 2) – REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (RAI) REGARDING 60-DAY RESPONSE TO BULLETIN 2011-01, "MITIGATING STRATEGIES" (TAC NOS. ME6497 AND ME6498)

Dear Mr. Ajluni:

On May 11, 2011, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Bulletin 2011-01, "Mitigating Strategies" (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML111250360), to all holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors, except those that have permanently ceased operation and have certified that fuel has been removed from the reactor vessel. The purpose of the bulletin was to obtain a comprehensive verification that licensees' mitigating strategies to maintain or restore core cooling, spent fuel cooling, and containment following a large explosion or fire were compliant with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Part 50, Section 50.54(hh)(2). The bulletin requested information on licensee 10 CFR 50.54(hh)(2) mitigating strategies in light of the recent events at Japan's Fukushima Daiichi facility to determine if (1) additional assessment of program implementation is needed, (2) the current inspection program should be enhanced, or (3) further regulatory action is warranted.

The bulletin required two sets of responses pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 50.54(f). The first responses were due 30 days after issuance of the bulletin (June 10, 2011). By letter dated June 8, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML111590883), you provided a response to the first set of questions for Vogtle 1 and 2. The second responses were due 60 days after issuance of the bulletin (July 11, 2011). By letter dated July 8, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML111890487), you responded to this second set of questions.

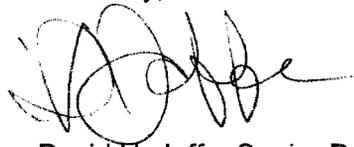
The NRC staff has reviewed the submitted information and determined that it needs additional information regarding your 60-day response to the bulletin. Please respond to the enclosed RAI within 30 days of the date of this letter.

M. Ajluni

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If you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact me at (301) 415-1439.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. H. Jaffe', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

David H. Jaffe, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-424 and 50-425

Enclosure:
RAI

cc w/encl: Distribution via Listserv

VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING

NRC BULLETIN 2011-01, "MITIGATING STRATEGIES"

TAC NOS. ME6497 AND ME6498

1. Describe in detail the testing and inventory of radio communications equipment to ensure that it is available and functional when needed.

The bulletin requested that each licensee describe in detail the testing and control of equipment supporting the mitigating strategies to ensure that it will be available and functional when needed. Communications equipment needed to support the mitigating strategies was described in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Safety Evaluation dated July 18, 2007 (Agencywide Documents and Management System Accession No. ML071940001), documenting the NRC review of your response to Section B.5.b of the Interim Compensatory Measures Order (EA-02-026), and typically includes radios, satellite phones, spare batteries, and chargers. The NRC staff notes that your response identifies testing and inventory of satellite and cell phones, but does not include similar activities for radio communications equipment.

2. Describe in detail how you ensure that a vehicle is available to move the B.5.b portable pump and other B.5.b equipment to the appropriate place when needed.

The bulletin requested that each licensee describe in detail the controls for ensuring equipment needed to execute the mitigating strategies will be available when needed. A vehicle is typically needed to implement the strategies since the portable pump and other equipment is stored away from target areas. The NRC staff could not determine if you performed activities to ensure that a tow vehicle would be available when needed.

Enclosure

M. Ajluni

- 2 -

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact me at (301) 415-1439.

Sincerely,

/RA/

David H. Jaffe, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-424 and 50-425

Enclosure:
RAI

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ADAMS Accession No.: ML11308A090

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