



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

April 2, 2012

Mr. Tom E. Tynan
Vice President
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant
7821 River Road
Waynesboro, GA 30830

**SUBJECT: PUBLIC MEETING SUMMARY – HIGH FAILURE RATE ON THE APRIL 2011
INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSE EXAMINATION – DOCKET NUMBERS 50-424
AND 50-425**

Dear Mr. Tynan:

This letter refers to the meeting conducted at the NRC Region II office on March 21, 2012, at 1:00 pm. The meeting's purpose was to provide an opportunity to discuss the high failure rate on the April 2011 initial operator license examination, including the corrective actions which have been implemented, with NRC management. Enclosed is a list of attendees and presentation slides.

During the meeting, Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) communicated that the root cause of the high NRC exam failure rate was that the Vogtle Units 1 and 2 management team provided less-than-adequate involvement and oversight of the applicants who took the April 2011 NRC exam. SNC also discussed the corrective actions which had been implemented for management oversight of applicants and NRC exam development activities. The root cause analysis methodology, applicant selection process, overall instructor experience level, and the status of new applicants were also discussed.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR) 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/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Should you have any questions concerning this meeting, please contact Bruno Caballero at (404) 997-4608.

Sincerely,

/RA: Malcolm Widmann for/

Mark E. Franke, Chief
Operator Licensing Branch 2
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-424, 50-425
License Nos. NPF-68, NPF-81

Enclosures:

1. List of Attendees
2. SNC Presentation Slides

cc w/encl: (See page 3)

Should you have any questions concerning this meeting, please contact Bruno Caballero at (404) 997-4608.

Sincerely,

/RA: Malcolm Widmann for/

Mark E. Franke, Chief
 Operator Licensing Branch 2
 Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-424, 50-425
 License Nos. NPF-68, NPF-81

Enclosures:

1. List of Attendees
2. SNC Presentation Slides

cc w/encl: (See page 3)

PUBLICLY AVAILABLE
 NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE
 SENSITIVE
 NON-SENSITIVE
 ADAMS: Yes
 ACCESSION NUMBER: _____
 SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE
 FORM 665 ATTACHED

OFFICE	RII:DRS	RII:DRP	RII:DRS	RII:DRS			
SIGNATURE	RA	RA	RA	RA			
NAME	CABALLERO	EHRHARDT	WIDMANN	FRANKE			
DATE	3/30/2012	4/2/2012	4/2/2012	4/2/2012			
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

cc w/encl:

S. Kuczynski
Chairman, President and CEO
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

D. G. Bost
Chief Nuclear Officer
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

N. J. Stringfellow
Licensing Manager
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

Paula Marino
Vice President
Engineering
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

T. A. Lynch
Vice President
Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

Dennis R. Madison
Vice President
Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

J. L. Pemberton
SVP & General Counsel-Ops & SNC
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

T. E. Tynan
Site Vice President
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

M. J. Ajluni
Nuclear Licensing Director
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

B. D. McKinney, Jr.
Regulatory Response Manager
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

D. W. Daughhetee
Licensing Engineer
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

L. Mike Stinson
Vice President
Fleet Operations Support
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

T. D. Honeycutt
Regulatory Response Supervisor
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

L. P. Hill
Licensing Supervisor
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

L. L. Crumpton
Administrative Assistant, Sr.
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Electronic Mail Distribution

David H. Jones
Site Vice President
Vogtle Units 3 and 4
Southern Nuclear Operating Company
Electronic Mail Distribution

Hickox, T. Mark
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant
Electronic Mail Distribution

S. C. Swanson
Site Support Manager
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant
Electronic Mail Distribution

(cc w/encls cont – See page 4)

(cc w/encl cont'd)
Senior Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant
U.S. NRC
7821 River Road
Waynesboro, GA 30830

Arthur H. Domby, Esq.
Troutman Sanders
Electronic Mail Distribution

Sandra Threatt, Manager
Nuclear Response and Emergency
Environmental Surveillance
Bureau of Land and Waste Management
Department of Health and Environmental
Control
Electronic Mail Distribution

Division of Radiological Health
TN Dept. of Environment & Conservation
401 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37243-1532

Richard Haynes
Director, Division of Waste Management
Bureau of Land and Waste Management
S.C. Department of Health and
Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Lee Foley
Manager of Contracts Generation
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Electronic Mail Distribution

Mark Williams
Commissioner
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Electronic Mail Distribution

Judson H. Turner
Director
Environmental Protection Division
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Electronic Mail Distribution

Cynthia A. Sanders
Radioactive Materials Program Manager
Environmental Protection Division
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Electronic Mail Distribution

James A. Capp
Program Coordination Branch Chief
Environmental Protection Division
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Electronic Mail Distribution

James C. Hardeman
Environmental Radiation Program Manager
Environmental Protection Division
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Electronic Mail Distribution

Al Frazier
Emergency Response and Radiation
Program Manager
Environmental Protection Division
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Electronic Mail Distribution

Mr. Steven M. Jackson
Senior Engineer - Power Supply
Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia
Electronic Mail Distribution

Reece McAlister
Executive Secretary
Georgia Public Service Commission
Electronic Mail Distribution

Office of the Attorney General
40 Capitol Square, SW
Atlanta, GA 30334

Office of the County Commissioner
Burke County Commission
Electronic Mail Distribution

(cc w/encls cont'd – See page 5)

(cc w/encl cont'd)

Director

Consumers' Utility Counsel Division

Governor's Office of Consumer Affairs

2 M. L. King, Jr. Drive

Plaza Level East; Suite 356

Atlanta, GA 30334-4600

Amy Whaley

Resident Manager

Electronic Mail Distribution

Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.

ATTN: Mr. Robert Brown

Plant Training and

Emergency Preparedness Manager

Vogtle Electric Generating Plant

7821 River Road

Bin 63030

Waynesboro, GA 30830-2965

Letter to Tom Tynan from Mark Franke, dated April 2, 2012.

SUBJECT: PUBLIC MEETING SUMMARY – HIGH FAILURE RATE ON THE APRIL 2011
INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSE EXAMINATION – DOCKET NUMBERS 50-424
AND 50-425

Distribution w/encl:

Region II Administrator's Secretary
Region II DRP Division Secretary
Region II Division Directors and Deputies
Region II Counsel
Region II State Liaison Officer
Region II Public Affairs Officer
Region II Resource Management Branch
Region II Receptionist
Region II Regional Coordinator OEDO
Headquarters Operation Officer
PMNS
RIDSNNRRPMVogtle Resource
L Douglas, RII
RIDSNNRRDIRS
OE Mail
PUBLIC

Email Distribution:

tetynan@southernco.com (T. Tynan)
mjluni@southernco.com (M. Ajluni)
emwillif@southernco.com (L. Williford)
amgeter@southernco.com (A. Getr)
bill.ward@exeloncorp.com (B. Ward)
cmedmund@southernco.com (C. Edmund)
ggmoxley@southernco.com (G. Moxley)
sroetger@psc.state.ga.us (S. Roetger)
William_freebairn@platts.com (B. Freebairn)
nucbiz@hotmail.com (B. Meyer)
sara@cleanenergy.org (S. Barczak)
rob.pavey@augustachronicle.com (R. Pavey)
david.britt@cengllc.com (D. Britt)
tgiebelhausen@oppd.com (T. Giebekhausen)
rdbrigdo@southernco.com (R. Brigdon)

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Southern Nuclear Company attendees

Tom Tynan, Vogtle Site Vice President
Robert Brown, Vogtle Training Manager
Mark Ajluni, Nuclear Licensing Director
Liz Williford, Licensing Engineer
Amoi Geter, Communication Supervisor

NRC attendees

Frank Ehrhardt, Branch Chief, Division of Reactor Projects, Branch 2
Mark Franke, Branch Chief, Operator Licensing Branch 2
Malcolm Widmann, Branch Chief Operator Licensing Branch 1
Leonard Wert, Deputy Regional Administrator
Joel Munday, Director Division of Reactor Safety
Michael Junge, Branch Chief New Reactors
Amanda Toth, Operations Engineer
Edwin Lea, Jr., Senior Operations Engineer
Rudy Rivera, Senior Criminal Investigator, Office of the Inspector General
Bruno Caballero, Senior Operations Engineer
Mark Riches, Operations Engineer
Michael Meeks, Operations Engineer
Phillip Capehart, Senior Operations Engineer
Mark Bates, Senior Operations Engineer
Roger Hannah, Senior Public Affairs Officer

Members of the Public

Lisa Powell
Bill Ward, Corporate Operations Training Program Manager, Exelon Nuclear

Via the toll-free audio-conference line

Steven D. Roetger, Georgia Public Service Commission
Bob Meyer, Professional Reactor Operator Society
Sara Barczak, Southern Alliance for Clean Energy
Rob Pavey, Augusta Chronicle
Tim Kolb, Senior Reactor Engineer, NRC/NRR/DIRS/IOLB
Chris Cowdrey, Reactor Engineer, NRC/NRR/DIRS/OLB
David Britt, Supervisor Initial Training, Nine Mile Point
Tom Giebelhausen, Operations Training Manager, Fort Calhoun
Gary Ohmstede, Farley
Greg Moxley, Vogtle
Paul Underwood, Hatch
Charlie Edmund, Hatch