

**OFFICIAL USE ONLY — PROPRIETARY INFORMATION**

February 21, 2014

Mr. B. L. Ivey, Vice President  
Regulatory Affairs  
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1295  
Bin B022  
Birmingham, AL 35201

SUBJECT: VOGTLE, UNITS 3 AND 4 - SAFETY EVALUATION REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ORDER EA-12-051, RELIABLE SPENT FUEL POOL INSTRUMENTATION FOR VOGTLE UNITS 3 AND 4 (TAC NOS. RP0412 AND RP0414)

Dear Mr. Ivey:

On March 12, 2012, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Order EA-12-051, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Reliable Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation" (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML12054A679), to all power reactor licensees and holders of construction permits in active or deferred status. This order requires the licensee to have a reliable indication of the water level in associated spent fuel storage pools capable of supporting identification of the following pool water level conditions by trained personnel: (1) level that is adequate to support operation of the normal fuel pool cooling system, (2) level that is adequate to provide substantial radiation shielding for a person standing on the spent fuel pool operating deck, and (3) level where fuel remains covered and actions to implement make-up water addition should no longer be deferred.

Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) responded to Order EA-12-051 by letter dated October 23, 2012 for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) Units 3 and 4 (ADAMS Accession No. M12300A094). As part of the response, SNC submitted a proprietary Westinghouse Electric Company (Westinghouse) report, APP-SFS-M3R-003, "Response to NRC Orders EA-12-051 and EA-12-063 and Background Information for Future Licensees on AP1000 Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation" (ADAMS Accession No. ML12300A096). A non-proprietary version of APP-SFS-MSR-03 was also submitted as an attachment to the October 23, 2012 letter which was designated as APP-SFS-MSR-04 (ADAMS Accession No. ML12300A095). SNC supplemented their response to Order EA-12-051 by letter dated October 31, 2013 (ADAMS Accession No. ML13308A935), which proposed adding supplemental information to the VEGP Units 3 and 4, Updated Final Safety Analysis Report,

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B. L. Ivey

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Section 9.1.3.7 concerning the reliable spent fuel pool instrument design. In addition, SNC proposed associated requirements related to calibration, testing and training which were added to the SNC action tracking system.

The staff's Safety Evaluation (SE) concerning reliable spent fuel pool instrumentation concludes that SNC has provided an acceptable response to Order EA-12-051. Since the enclosed SE may contain information considered to be proprietary by Westinghouse and/or SNC, we are providing the SE to you for the purpose of identifying such information. Within 30 days from the date of this letter, please provide your response and identification of any information in the enclosed SE that should be withheld from public disclosure.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at 301-415-1439 or via e-mail at [David.Jaffe@nrc.gov](mailto:David.Jaffe@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

David H. Jaffe, Senior Project Manager  
Licensing Branch 4  
Division of New Reactor Licensing  
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos. 52-025  
52-026

Enclosure:  
Safety Evaluation

cc: w/o encl: See next page

B. L. Ivey

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Sincerely,

*/RA/*

David H. Jaffe, Senior Project Manager  
Licensing Branch 4  
Division of New Reactor Licensing  
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos. 52-025  
52-026

Enclosure:  
Safety Evaluation

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(Revised 02/03/2014)

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