



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

September 3, 2014

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

**SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING
PLANT UNITS 3 AND 4 (NRC INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 05200025/2014006
AND 05200026/2014006)**

Dear Mr. Ivey:

On August 11, 2014, the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed its mid-cycle performance review of Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) Units 3 and 4. The NRC reviewed the most recent inspection results and enforcement actions from January 1, 2014, through June 30, 2014. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility.

The NRC determined the performance at VEGP Units 3 and 4 during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Construction Reactor Oversight Process (cROP) Action Matrix because all inspection findings had very low (i.e., green) safety significance. Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct cROP baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through March 31, 2015. Routine inspections performed by construction resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed are tentative and may be revised based on construction activities occurring at the site. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room 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).

B. Ivey

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Please contact me at (404) 997-4540 with any questions you have regarding this letter or inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Michael E. Ernstes, Chief
Construction Project Branch 4
Division of Construction Projects

Docket Nos.: 52-00025, 52-00026
License Nos.: NPF-91, NPF-92

Enclosure:
Vogle Inspection Plan

cc w/encl.: (See next page)

cc w/ encls:

Resident Manager
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
Alvin W. Vogtle Road
7821 River Road
Waynesboro, GA 30830

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

Anne F. Appleby
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
2100 East Exchange Place
Tucker, GA 30084

Stephen E. Kuczynski
Chairman, President and CEO
Southern Nuclear
P.O. Box 1295
Birmingham, AL 35201

Mr. Reece McAlister
Executive Secretary
Georgia Public Service Commission
Atlanta, GA 30334

Mr. Joseph A. (Buzz) Miller
Executive Vice President
Southern Nuclear Operating Company
241 Ralph McGill Blvd
BIN 10240
Atlanta, GA 30308-3374

Resident Inspector
Plant Vogtle 3 and 4
7825 River Road
Waynesboro, GA 30830

County Commissioner
Office of the County Commissioner
Burke County Commission
Waynesboro, GA 30830

Mr. James C. Hardeman
Environmental Radiation Program Manager
Environmental Protection Division
Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources
4220 International Pkwy, Suite 100
Atlanta, GA 30354-3906
Elaine Sikes
Burke County Library
130 Highway 24 South
Waynesboro, GA 30830

Mr. Jerry Smith
Commissioner
District 8
Augusta-Richmond County Commission
1332 Brown Road
Hephzibah, GA 30815

Southern Nuclear Op. Co.
Document Control Coordinator
42 Inverness Center Parkway
Attn: B236
Birmingham, AL 35242

Gene Stilp
1550 Fishing Creek Valley Road
Harrisburg, PA 17112

Mr. Robert Sweeney
IBEX ESI
4641 Montgomery Avenue
Suite 350
Bethesda, MD 20814

George B. Taylor, Jr.
2100 East Exchange Pl.
Atlanta, GA 30084-5336

Email

agaughtm@southernco.com (Amy Aughtman)
amanda@georgiawand.org (Amanda Hill-Attkisson)
awc@nei.org (Anne W. Cottingham)
becky@georgiawand.org (Becky D. Rafter)
bhwhitle@southernco.com (Brian Whitley)
Bill.Jacobs@gdsassociates.com (Bill Jacobs)
blivey@southernco.com (Pete Ivey)
bwwaites@southernco.com (Brandon Waites)
collinlj@westinghouse.com (Leslie Collins)
couturf@westinghouse.com (Gerald Couture)
crpierce@southernco.com (C.R. Pierce)
csguinn@southernco.com (Candace Guinn)
cwaltman@roe.com (C. Waltman)
dahjones@southernco.com (David Jones)
danawill@southernco.com (Dana Williams)
david.hinds@ge.com (David Hinds)
david.lewis@pillsburylaw.com (David Lewis)
david.siefken@hq.doe.gov (David Siefken)
delongra@westinghouse.com (Rich DeLong)
dgbost@southernco.com (Danny Bost)
difulton@southernco.com (Dale Fulton)
drculver@southernco.com (Randy Culver)
ed.burns@earthlink.net (Ed Burns)
edavis@pegasusgroup.us (Ed David)
erg-xl@cox.net (Eddie R. Grant)
fdhundle@southernco.com (Forrest Hundley)
G2NDRMDC@southernco.com (SNC Document Control)
graysw@westinghouse.com (Scott W. Gray)
james1.beard@ge.com (James Beard)
jamiller@southernco.com (Buzz Miller)
jbtomase@southernco.com (Janice Tomasello)
jenmorri@southernco.com (Jennifer Buettner)
jim@ncwarn.org (Jim Warren)
jlhall@southernco.com (Jennifer Hall)
Joseph_Hegner@dom.com (Joseph Hegner)
jranalli@meagpower.org (Jerry Ranalli)
jrjohnso@southernco.com (Randy Johnson)
jtgasser@southernco.com (Jeff Gasser)
karen.patterson@ttnus.com (Karen Patterson)
karlg@att.net (Karl Gross)
Katherine.Janik@Hq.Doe.Gov (Katherine Janik)
kim.haynes@opc.com (Kim Haynes)
kmseiber@southernco.com (Kristin Seibert)
KSutton@morganlewis.com (Kathryn M. Sutton)
kwaugh@impact-net.org (Kenneth O. Waugh)
lchandler@morganlewis.com (Lawrence J. Chandler)
ldperry@southernco.com (Leigh D. Perry)
maria.webb@pillsburylaw.com (Maria Webb)
markus.popa@hq.doe.gov (Markus Popa)

mcintyba@westinghouse.com (Brian McIntyre)
media@nei.org (Scott Peterson)
Melissa.Smith@Hq.Doe.Gov (Melissa Smith)
mike.price@opc.com (M.W. Price)
MSF@nei.org (Marvin Fertel)
myox@southernco.com (Mike Yox)
nirsnet@nirs.org (Michael Mariotte)
nlhender@southernco.com (Nancy Henderson)
Nuclaw@mindspring.com (Robert Temple)
patriciaL.campbell@ge.com (Patricia L. Campbell)
Paul@beyondnuclear.org (Paul Gunter)
pbessette@morganlewis.com (Paul Bessette)
randall@nexusamllc.com (Randall Li)
rhenry@ap.org (Ray Henry)
rjarrett@southernco.com (Robyn Jarrett)
RJB@NEI.org (Russell Bell)
Ronald.Jones@scana.com (Ronald Jones)
russpa@westinghouse.com (Paul Russ)
rwink@ameren.com (Roger Wink)
sabinski@suddenlink.net (Steve A. Bennett)
sblanton@balch.com (Stanford Blanton)
sfrantz@morganlewis.com (Stephen P. Frantz)
sjackson@meagpower.org (Steven Jackson)
skauffman@mpr.com (Storm Kauffman)
skuczyns@southernco.com (Steve Kuczynski)
sroetger@psc.state.ga.us (Steve Roetger)
stephan.moen@ge.com (Stephan Moen)
taterrel@southernco.com (Todd Terrell)
tlubnow@mpr.com (Tom Lubnow)
Tom.Bilik@nrc.gov (Thomas Bilik)
TomClements329@cs.com (Tom Clements)
Vanessa.quinn@dhs.gov (Vanessa Quinn)
Wanda.K.Marshall@dom.com (Wanda K. Marshall)
wasparkm@southernco.com (Wesley A. Sparkman)
wayne.marquino@ge.com (Wayne Marquino)
weave1dw@westinghouse.com (Doug Weaver)

Letter to B.L. Ivey from Michael E. Ernstes, dated September 3, 2014

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING
PLANT UNITS 3 AND 4 (NRC INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 05200025/2014006
AND 05200026/2014006)

Distribution w/encl:

Region II Regional Coordinator, OEDO

M. Brown, NRO

T. Kozak, NRO

L. Burkhart, NRO

D. Jaffe, NRO

F. Brown, RII

W. Jones, RII

S. Coffin, RII

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L. Suggs, RII

A. Masters, RII

G. Khouri, RII

J. Kent, RII

J. Fuller, RII

C. Abbott, RII

C. Huffman, RII

S. Temple, RII

M. Widmann, RII

ConE.Resouce@nrc.gov

NRO_cROP.Resource@nrc.gov

Voqtile_Construction_Support@nrc.gov

PUBLIC

Vogle Inspection Plan

Programmatic Inspections (IMC 2504)	
Est. Date	Description
Oct 2014	Construction QA program implementation - Periodic team inspection

ITAAC Inspections (IMC 2503)	
Est. Date	Description
3Q 2014 – 1Q 2015	<p>The majority of Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria (ITAAC) related inspections are expected to be associated with the following construction and fabrication activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Units 3 & 4 containment vessel fabrication, such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welding of vertical plates • Welding of major vessel sections • Welding procedures and qualifications • Nondestructive examinations (NDE) (such as x-ray) • NDE procedures and qualifications 2. Units 3 & 4 nuclear island construction, such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auxiliary building walls • Reinforcing steel • Embed plates • Floor slabs • Shield building walls • Concrete placement • Rebar and concrete inside CVBH 3. Module fabrication, such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welding and NDE • Welding and NDE procedures and qualifications • Material controls 4. Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type test report reviews • Software lifecycle inspections

Note: Inspection schedule is subject to change based on licensing and construction activities.

B. Ivey

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Michael E. Ernstes, Chief
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SIGNATURE	GJK3						
NAME	G. Khouri						
DATE	08/27/2014						
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