



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

March 10, 2015

Mr. C. R. Pierce
Regulatory Affairs Director
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Post Office Box 1295, Bin - 038
Birmingham, AL 35201-1295

SUBJECT: VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT, UNIT 1 (VEGP) – REQUEST FOR
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON SPRING 2014 STEAM GENERATOR TUBE
INSPECTIONS (TAC NO. MF4987)

Dear Mr. Pierce:

By letter dated October 3, 2014 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML14276A430), Southern Nuclear Operating Company (the licensee, SNC) submitted information summarizing the results of the spring 2014 steam generator tube inspections performed at Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Unit 1. These inspections were performed during refueling outage 18. We have determined that additional information is needed, as noted below, in order to complete the review.

1. SNC's letter stated that some of the indications identified during this outage have been present for several cycles. Please clarify whether the indications found on the tubes at row 24, column 66 (R24C66), R40C57, and R49C89 were present in prior inspections since they do not seem to have been reported in previous inspection reports.
2. Previously, an indication was reported in R32C35 in SG 2. During RFO 18, this indication was not reported. Please discuss.
3. Please confirm that 199 indications of anti-vibration bar (AVB) wear were detected in 110 tubes in SG 4.

Please confirm that 128 indications of AVB wear were detected in 75 tubes in SG 1.

4. SNC's letter stated that some indications in SG 2 were inspected during RFO 18. Were only the indications actually listed in Table 5 inspected? Were those inspections performed using only a rotating probe? If more inspections were performed, please discuss the scope and results of those inspections (include all information required by the technical specifications for these inspections).
5. In Table 5 of SNC's letter, there are several indications in SG 2 at the baffle plates. Please discuss the cause of these indications (e.g., pressure pulse cleaning).
6. Please confirm that all tube plugs were present and in the proper locations.
7. Please discuss the results of the channel head inspections.

C. R. Pierce

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8. At the bottom of page E-2 of SNC's report, two new wear indications are discussed. Please discuss the cause of these indications. If the suspected cause is a loose part or foreign object, were any visual inspections performed to ensure the part was no longer present? If not, how was the integrity of this tube assessed for future operation (since eddy current examinations may not detect a part that has moved away from the tube or that is nonconducting)?

Sincerely,



Robert Martin, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-424

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- 8. At the bottom of page E-2 of SNC's report, two new wear indications are discussed. Please discuss the cause of these indications. If the suspected cause is a loose part or foreign object, were any visual inspections performed to ensure the part was no longer present? If not, how was the integrity of this tube assessed for future operation (since eddy current examinations may not detect a part that has moved away from the tube or that is nonconducting)?

Sincerely,

/RA/

Robert Martin, Senior Project Manager
 Plant Licensing Branch II-1
 Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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