

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NEW REACTORS
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 42
TO THE COMBINED LICENSE NO. NPF-93 AND LICENSE NO. NPF-94
SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY
SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY
VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION UNITS 2 AND 3
DOCKET NOS. 52-027 AND 52-028

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By application dated October 22, 2015, (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML15295A091), South Carolina Electric & Gas Company (SCE&G, the licensee) requested changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs) in Combined License Numbers NPF-93 and NPF-94 for the Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station (VCSNS) Units 2 and 3. The licensee is proposing to revise the Shift Supervisor title to Shift Manager in TS 5.0, "Administrative Controls."

2.0 REGULATORY EVALUATION

Section 50.36 of Title 10 to the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR 50.36) establishes the regulatory requirements related to the content of TSs. In doing so, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) emphasized those matters related to the prevention of accidents and mitigation of consequences of such accidents. As recorded in the "Statements of Consideration, Technical Specifications for Facility Licenses: Safety Analysis Reports," (33 FR 18610, December 17, 1968), the NRC noted that licensees are expected to incorporate into their plant TSs those items that are directly related to maintaining the integrity of the physical barriers designed to contain radioactivity. Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.36, TSs are required to include items in five specific categories related to station operation. Specifically, those categories include: (1) safety limits, limiting safety system settings, and limiting control settings; (2) limiting conditions for operation; (3) surveillance requirements; (4) design features; and (5) administrative controls. However, the rule does not specify the particular requirements to be included in a plant's TSs.

In 10 CFR 50.36(c)(5), "Administrative controls," it is stated that "Administrative controls are the provisions relating to organization and management, procedures, recordkeeping, review and audit, and reporting necessary to assure operation of the facility in a safe manner." Therefore, the position titles in TS 5.0 must reflect the organization operating the facility.

3.0 TECHNICAL EVALUATION

In its application, the licensee requested to amend COL Appendix A, TS Section 5.0, “Administrative Controls” by revising the “Shift Supervisor” title to “Shift Manager” in TS 5.1.2 and in TS 5.7.2. These proposed changes are based on recommendations from the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO) ~~within~~ “Significant Operating Experience Report (SOER) 96-1, “Control Room Supervision Operational Decision-Making and Teamwork,” dated September 27, 1996 and “ACAD 97-004, “Guidelines for Shift Manager Selection, Training and Qualification, and Professional Development,” dated April 1997. The requested changes are administrative in nature and will not alter the qualifications, functions, responsibilities or authorizations previously established by 10 CFR 50.36, 10 CFR 50.54 and 10 CFR 55.

The title change from Shift Supervisor to Shift Manager will more accurately reflect the management’s functions and responsibilities being performed by these individuals and does not change the intent of the TSs. This proposed change will not lower the safety or effectiveness of the organization. In addition, the proposed title change does not alter any of the minimum on-duty operations or shift organization requirements in the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report Chapter 13, and does not reduce any commitment made in the VCSNS Units 2 and 3 licensing basis.

Based on the above evaluation, the NRC staff concludes that the proposed amendment is acceptable.

4.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission’s regulations in 10 CFR 50.91(b) (2), the South Carolina State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comment.

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment changes a requirement with respect to installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area, as defined in 10 CFR Part 20, “Standards for Protection Against Radiation.” The NRC staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (80 FR 73242; published on November 24, 2015). Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

6.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission’s regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.