

March 2, 2016

Mr. Ronald A. Jones, Vice President  
South Carolina Electric & Gas Company  
New Nuclear Deployment  
P. O. Box 88  
Jenkinsville, SC 29065

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE REVIEW OF SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS  
COMPANY'S REQUEST FOR LICENSE AMENDMENT AND EXEMPTION  
(LAR 15-20) FOR THE VIRGIL C. SUMMER NUCLEAR STATION  
UNITS 2 AND 3: INCREASED CONCRETE THICKNESS TOLERANCE FOR  
COLUMN LINE J-1 AND J-2 WALLS ABOVE 66'-6" (CAC NO. RQ0468)

Dear Mr. Jones:

By letter dated January 14, 2016 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under Accession No. ML16015A058), and as revised and replaced by letter dated February 22, 2016 (ADAMS Accession No. ML16053A405), South Carolina Electric & Gas Company (SCE&G) submitted a license amendment request (LAR) 15-20 and exemption for Combined License (COL) Numbers NPF-93 and NPF-94, for the Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station (VCSNS), Units 2 and 3, respectively. The requested amendment requires changes to the plant-specific Tier 1 information, with corresponding changes to the associated COL Appendix C information. The proposed amendment would revise the COLs concerning the design details of the auxiliary building structural design, specifically the tolerance for concrete wall thicknesses for the column line J-1 and J-2 reinforced concrete walls connected to the column line 4 structural module wall (i.e., the north wall of the CA20 module). The requested change to the plant-specific Tier 1 information requires an exemption to be actualized. The Tier 1 information for which a plant-specific departure and exemption is being requested includes revisions to the tolerance for the concrete thickness of the column line J-1 and J-2 reinforced concrete walls.

The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of the LAR. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical reviews. The acceptance review is also intended to identify whether the application has any readily apparent information insufficiencies in its characterization of the regulatory requirements or the licensing basis of the plant.

Consistent with Section 50.90 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), an amendment to the license must fully describe the changes requested, and follow as far as applicable, the form prescribed for original applications. Section 52.79 of the 10 CFR addresses the content of technical information required. This section stipulates that the submittal address the design and operating characteristics, unusual or novel design features, and principal safety considerations.

R. A. Jones

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The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment.

Given the lesser scope and depth of the acceptance review as compared to the detailed technical review, there may be instances in which issues that impact the NRC staff's ability to complete the detailed technical review are identified despite completion of an adequate acceptance review. You will be advised of any further information needed to support the NRC staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-3249 or [Ruth.Reyes@nrc.gov](mailto:Ruth.Reyes@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

***/RA William Gleaves for:/***

Ruth C. Reyes, Project Manager  
Licensing Branch 4  
Division of New Reactor Licensing  
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos.: 52-027  
52-028

cc: See next page

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment.

Given the lesser scope and depth of the acceptance review as compared to the detailed technical review, there may be instances in which issues that impact the NRC staff's ability to complete the detailed technical review are identified despite completion of an adequate acceptance review. You will be advised of any further information needed to support the NRC staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-3249 or [Ruth.Reyes@nrc.gov](mailto:Ruth.Reyes@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

*/RA William Gleaves for:/*

Ruth C. Reyes, Project Manager  
 Licensing Branch 4  
 Division of New Reactor Licensing  
 Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos.: 52-027  
 52-028

cc: See next page

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<b>NAME</b>	RReyes (c)	RButler*	JMcKirgan
<b>DATE</b>	03/1/16	02/16/16	03/2/16
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COL SCE&G – VC Summer Mailing List  
cc:

(Revised 01/07/2016)

Mr. Jeffrey B. Archie  
Sr. Vice President, Nuclear Operations  
South Carolina Electric & Gas Company  
MC D304  
220 Operation Way  
Cayce, SC 29033-3172

Gregrey Ginyard  
366 Lakeview Drive  
Jenkinsville, SC 29065

Mr. Wayne Guilfoyle  
Commissioner  
District 8  
Augusta-Richmond County Commission  
4940 windsor Spring Rd  
Hephzibah, GA 30815

Gwendoly Jackson  
Burke County Library  
130 Highway 24 South  
Waynesboro, GA 30830

Mr. Barty Simonton  
Environmental Radiation Program Manager  
Environmental Protection Division  
Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources  
4224 International Pkwy, Suite 120  
Atlanta, GA 30354-3906

Ms. Gidget Stanley-Banks  
Director  
Allendale County EPA  
426 Mullberry Street  
Allendale, SC 29810

Ms. Ruth Thomas  
Environmentalists Inc.  
354 Woodland Dr  
Columbus, NC 28722

## COL SCE&G – VC Summer Mailing List

### Email

abynum@scana.com (Al Bynum)  
ALPUGH@southernco.com (Amanda Pugh)  
andy.barbee@scana.com (Andy Barbee)  
annacom@westinghouse.com (Michael J. Annacone)  
arice@scana.com (April R. Rice)  
awc@nei.org (Anne W. Cottingham)  
baucomc@westinghouse.com (Charles T. Baucom)  
bedforbj@westinghouse.com (Brian Bedford)  
Bill.Jacobs@gdsassociates.com (Bill Jacobs)  
burrouno@westinghouse.com (Nicholle Burroughs)  
castelca@westinghouse.com (Curtis Castell)  
churchcd@westinghouse.com (Carl D. Churchman)  
coleja@westinghouse.com (Joseph Cole)  
comerj@westinghouse.com (James Comer)  
crenshjw@westinghouse.com (John Crenshaw)  
cwaltman@roe.com (C. Waltman)  
david.lewis@pillsburylaw.com (David Lewis)  
DCRM-EDMS@SCANA.COM  
dgriffin@scana.com (Donna S. Griffin)  
durhamdc@westinghouse.com (David Durham)  
ed.burns@earthlink.net (Ed Burns)  
fbelser@regstaff.sc.gov  
Garrett.Sanders@SCANA.com (Garrett Sanders)  
gary@jonespartners.net (Gary Jones)  
George\_Stramback@Charter.net (George Stramback)  
gkokolis@regstaff.sc.gov (George Kokolis)  
gsoult@regstaff.sc.gov (Gene G. Soult)  
jannina.blanco@pillsburylaw.com (Jannina Blanco)  
jantol1dj@westinghouse.com (David Jantosik)  
jarchie@scana.com (Jeffrey B. Archie)  
Jeff.hawkins@fluour.com (Jeff Hawkins)  
jenkinse@dhec.sc.gov (Susan Jenkins)  
jflitter@regstaff.sc.gov  
Joseph\_Hegner@dom.com (Joseph Hegner)  
justin.bouknight@scana.com (Justin R. Bouknight)  
karlg@att.net (Karl Gross)  
Katie.brown@scana.com (Katie Brown)  
kdfili@southernco.com (Karen Fili)  
kinneyrw@dhec.sc.gov (Ronald Kinney)  
kmstacy@southernco.com (Kara Stacy)  
kroberts@southernco.com (Kelli Roberts)  
KSutton@morganlewis.com (Kathryn M. Sutton)  
kwaugh@impact-net.org (Kenneth O. Waugh)  
lchandler@morganlewis.com (Lawrence J. Chandler)

## COL SCE&G – VC Summer Mailing List

majames@regstaff.sc.gov (Anthony James)  
mcintyba@westinghouse.com (Brian McIntyre)  
media@nei.org (Scott Peterson)  
MSF@nei.org (Marvin Fertel)  
Nicholas.Kellenberger@scana.com (Nicholas Kellenberger)  
nirsnet@nirs.org (Michael Mariotte)  
Nuclaw@mindspring.com (Robert Temple)  
patriciaL.campbell@ge.com (Patricia L. Campbell)  
paul.mothena@scana.com (Paul Mothena)  
Paul@beyondnuclear.org (Paul Gunter)  
pbessette@morganlewis.com (Paul Bessette)  
porterhj@dhec.sc.gov (Henry Porter)  
r.joshi15@comcast.net (Ravi Joshi)  
randall@nexusamllc.com (Randall Li)  
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)  
sara@cleanenergy.org (Sara Barczak)  
sburdick@morganlewis.com (Stephen Burdick)  
sbyrne@scana.com (Stephen A. Byrne)  
sfrantz@morganlewis.com (Stephen P. Frantz)  
shudson@regstaff.sc.gov (Shannon Hudson)  
solleyda@dhec.sc.gov (David Solley)  
stephan.moen@ge.com (Stephan Moen)  
TGATLIN@scana.com (Thomas Gatlin)  
threatsj@dhec.sc.gov (Sandra Threatt)  
tom.miller@hq.doe.gov (Tom Miller)  
TomClements329@cs.com (Tom Clements)  
Vanessa.quinn@dhs.gov (Vanessa Quinn)  
vcsnrc@scana.com (NRC Senior Resident Inspector  
Wanda.K.Marshall@dom.com (Wanda K. Marshall)  
weave1dw@westinghouse.com (Doug Weaver)  
William.Cherry@scana.com (William Cherry)  
wmcherry@santeecooper.com (Marion Cherry)