

September 2, 2016

MEMORANDUM TO: Jennifer Dixon-Herrity, Acting Chief  
Licensing Branch 4  
Division of New Reactor Licensing  
Office of New Reactors

FROM: Jordan Hoellman, Project Manager */RA/*  
Licensing Branch 4  
Division of New Reactor Licensing  
Office of New Reactors

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF A PUBLIC MEETING WITH SOUTHERN NUCLEAR  
OPERATING COMPANY AND SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS  
ON JUNE 9, 2016

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff held a Category 2 public meeting with Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) and South Carolina Electric & Gas (SCE&G) on June 9, 2016. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss issues associated with the safety review of licensing actions for SNC's Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) Units 3 and 4, and SCE&G's Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station (VCSNS) Units 2 and 3.

The meeting notice can be found in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under Accession Number ML16141A079. The meeting notice is also posted on the NRC's public website. Enclosures 1 and 2 are the meeting agenda and attendance list for the meeting, respectively. The other documents referenced during the discussion can be found at the ADAMS Accession Numbers given below:

- Non-Proprietary Slides:  
ASME Section XI Preservice/Inservice  
Inspection (PSI/ISI) Limitations – ML16155A380
- SNC draft request for alternative PSI  
Requirements for Steam Generator (SG) Nozzle to  
Reactor Coolant Pump (RCP) Casing Welds – ML16152A976

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Summary of Meeting:

On June 9, 2016, staff from the NRC conducted a public meeting with representatives from SNC and SCE&G to discuss issues associated with the safety review of licensing actions for SNC's VEGP Units 3 and 4, and SCE&G's VCSNS Units 2 and 3. Specifically, the meeting discussed (1) preservice and in-service inspection (PSI/ISI) design for inspectability limitations and (2) SNC's draft request for alternative PSI for SG nozzle to RCP casing welds.

The first topic discussed was the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Section XI PSI/ISI inspection limitations for AP1000 valves and fitting welds. The licensees, through their vendor, Westinghouse Electric Company (WEC), walked through the presentation slides, explaining the ASME Section XI PSI/ISI requirements and the issues they have encountered with the design and accessibility requirements for ASME Code Class 1, 2, and 3 components. WEC described that the problem relates to three categories of welds with examination coverage concerns, where the designs meet the requirements of ASME Section III but cannot be inspected as required by ASME Section XI. The staff noted that it was the NRC's and industry's expectation that new builds would have the ability to do a better job with design for inspectability and was surprised that there were these examination coverage concerns. WEC described the proposed resolution, explaining that the proposed alternative will have a similar technical basis to ASME Code Cases N-481 and N-770, that the materials are reliable and not susceptible to age-related degradation mechanisms beyond fatigue. The NRC technical staff emphasized that industry representatives should consider how any proposed alternative could improve upon the inspections being conducted for similarly limited locations in operating plants. The licensees stated that they plan to submit a proposed alternative, following the guidance of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 50.55a, for NRC staff's review.

The second topic discussed was SNC's draft request for alternative PSI requirements for the SG nozzle to RCP casing welds. SNC walked through their proposal to use the 2013 Edition of ASME Section XI for the inspection requirements of these welds as amended by the six NRC conditions specified in *Federal Register* Volume 81, No. 41, March 2, 2016, "Proposed Rules, to conditionally accept ASME Code Case N-799." SNC explained the six conditions and SNC's application of each, described in the draft proposed alternative request. Related to SNC's application of Condition 3, the staff asked why SNC is proposing to take an exception to performing a volumetric examination of the entire weld volume given that their draft submittal states that the examination procedure is qualified for the full thickness of the weld. During the discussion, SNC stated that radiographic testing and ultrasonic testing (UT) of the full weld volume was completed in the shop to satisfy ASME Section III requirements, but the UT is not credited for preservice inspection because it was not qualified in accordance with ASME Section XI, Appendix VIII. The staff noted that a description of the volumetric examinations performed on the welds would provide additional clarification in this proposed alternative request. SNC stated that they would consider the staff's feedback and revise their request, if appropriate, before formally submitting.

At the end of each topic discussed, there was an opportunity for the public to provide comments and ask questions. All comments and questions were addressed before moving to the next topic or ending the meeting.

Docket Nos.: 052-025, 052-026  
052-027, 052-028

Enclosure:  
As stated

cc w/encls: See next page

At the end of each topic discussed, there was an opportunity for the public to provide comments and ask questions. All comments and questions were addressed before moving to the next topic or ending the meeting.

Docket Nos.: 052-025, 052-026  
052-027, 052-028

Enclosure:  
As stated

cc w/encls: See next page

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DATE	08/30/16	08/30/16	09/01/16	09/01/16

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## AGENDA FOR PUBLIC MEETING

### U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC)

Thursday, June 9, 2016

9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**PURPOSE:** To discuss issues associated with the safety review of licensing actions for Southern Nuclear Operating Company's (SNC) Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) Units 3 and 4, and South Carolina Electric & Gas' Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station (VCSNS) Units 2 and 3.

#### **OPEN**

<u>Time</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Led By</u>
9:00 a.m.	Opening Remarks	NRC
9:10 a.m.	<u>First Topic:</u>  Discussion on preservice and in-service inspection (PSI/ISI) Inspection Limitations	NRC/SNC/SCE&G/ Westinghouse Electric Company (WEC)
10:30 a.m.	Opportunity for Public Comment	PUBLIC/NRC
10:45 a.m.	<u>Second Topic:</u>  Discussion on SNC draft request for alternative PSI for steam generator reactor coolant pump (SG-RCP) Casing Welds	NRC/SNC/SCE&G/WEC
11:20 a.m.	Opportunity for Public Comment	PUBLIC/NRC
11:30 a.m.	Adjourn	

**PUBLIC MEETING**  
**UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
**Thursday, June 9, 2016**  
**9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

**List of Attendees**

Name	Organization
<b>Representing the Nuclear Regulatory Commission</b>	
Chandu Patel	NRO/DNRL/LB4
Billy Gleaves	NRO/DNRL/LB4
Jordan Hoellman	NRO/DNRL/LB4
John McKirgan	NRO/DNRL/LB4
Jennifer Dixon-Herrity	NRO/DNRL/LB4
Bob Caldwell	NRO/DEIA
Mike Mayfield	NRO/DEIA
Matthew Mitchell	NRO/DEIA/MCB
Eric Reichelt	NRO/DEIA/MCB
Steven Downey	NRO/DEIA/MCB
Nicholas McMurray	NRO/DEIA/MCB
Keith Hoffman	NRR/DE/EPNB
Randy Musser *	RII/DCI/CIB3
Alain Artayet *	RII/DCI/CIB3
Jermaine Heath	NRO/DCIP/QVIB3
<b>Representing Industry</b>	
Amy Aughtman	Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC)
Corey Thomas	SNC
David Jones	SNC
Chester Dicks	SNC
Kelli Roberts	SNC
Mark Wilson *	SNC
April Rice	South Carolina Electric & Gas (SCE&G)
Justin Bouknight *	SCE&G
Richard Troficanto *	SCE&G
Zach Harper	Westinghouse Electric Company (WEC)
Warren Bamford	WEC
Rick Rishel	WEC
Mark Urso	WEC
Paul Russ *	WEC

<b>Representing Public</b>	
Sara Barczak *	Clean Energy
Gene Soult *	SC Office of Regulatory Staff
Ravi Joshi *	Public
Steve Franzone *	Florida Power and Light (FPL)

\* = participated via teleconference

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(Revised 07/13/2016)

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(Revised 03/10/2016)

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