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Subject: Acceptance Review - Vogtle 1&2 Pump and Valve Testing Alternatives
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 7:31:00 AM

By letter dated July 28, 2016 (ML16210A460, SNC NL-16-1242), Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. (SNC) proposed alternatives for the pumps and valves inservice testing program for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 1 & 2, Fourth Ten-Year Interval. Section 50.55a(z) of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* requires the applicant to demonstrate that the proposed alternative would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety or that compliance with specified requirements would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality and safety.

The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the NRC staff's acceptance review of SNC's proposal. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to continue its detailed technical review. 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.

The NRC staff has reviewed SNC's proposal and concludes that it provides technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to continue its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed requests 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 in requests for additional information, 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.