



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

September 7, 2016

Mr. C. R. Pierce
Regulatory Affairs Director
Southern Nuclear Operating Co., Inc.
P.O. Box 1295, Bin 038
Birmingham, AL 35201-1295

SUBJECT: VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT, UNIT 2 – REQUEST FOR
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (CAC NO. MF8274)

Dear Mr. Pierce:

By letter dated August 12, 2016, Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. (SNC) submitted a license amendment request to revise the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Unit 2, Technical Specifications (TSs) Limiting Condition for Operation 3.7.9, "Ultimate Heat Sink (UHS)," such that with the 2B Nuclear Service Cooling Water (NSCW) transfer pump inoperable for refurbishment, the Completion Time of Condition 3.7.9.D.2.2 would be 46 days, as opposed to 31 days. This TS change would be a one-time change and in effect only for the 2B NSCW transfer pump for the remainder of Cycle 19.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has been determined that additional information is needed to continue its review. We request that SNC respond to the enclosed request for additional information at its earliest opportunity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bob Martin".

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

Docket No. 50-425

Enclosure:
Request for Additional Information

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST TO REVISE TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT, UNIT 2

DOCKET NO. 50-425

By letter dated August 12, 2016 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML16225A619), SNC submitted a license amendment request (LAR) to revise the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Unit 2, Technical Specifications (TS) Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) 3.7.9, "Ultimate Heat Sink (UHS)," such that with the 2B Nuclear Service Cooling Water (NSCW) transfer pump inoperable for refurbishment, the Completion Time of Condition 3.7.9.D.2.2 would be 46 days, as opposed to 31 days.

RAI No. 1:

Section 3.3, "Compensatory Measures," of Enclosure 1 to the LAR described an alternate means of water transfer between UHS basins during refurbishment of the 2B NSCW transfer pump. The alternate means would use an A-Train NSCW pump, a cross-tie piping connection, and a hose to add water from the A-Train UHS basin to the B-Train basin.

- a. Provide piping and instrumentation drawings or a simplified drawing that includes pipe size, valve types, and fittings, showing the flow path of the alternate means of water transfer.
- b. Describe the extent that existing operator training, procedures, and equipment provide for implementation of the proposed alternate means of water transfer.

RAI No. 2:

Section 3.5, "Risk," of Enclosure 1 to the LAR described that the proposed extension of the transfer pump maintenance period would have no impact on the core damage frequency or large early release frequency as modeled in the probabilistic risk assessment (PRA model) for VEGP, but also stated that the NSCW transfer pumps have not been included in the PRA model. Existing TS 3.7.9, Condition D, for one NSCW basin transfer pump inoperable allows a 31 day completion time provided that an alternate method of basin water transfer has been implemented within 8 days. The proposed one-time extension in the completion time to 46 days for the 2B NSCW transfer pump refurbishment increases the likelihood of equipment problems due to the longer exposure time. Since the proposed alternate means of water transfer during maintenance on the 2B NSCW transfer pump proposes use of an A-Train NSCW pump, explain whether existing capabilities (e.g., repair capabilities or supplemental equipment) would provide reasonable assurance of successful water transfer by the necessary time, considering potential equipment problems that could broadly affect A-Train equipment (e.g., a fault in the A-Train electrical distribution system).

Enclosure

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SUBJECT: VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT, UNIT 2 – REQUEST FOR
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (CAC NO. MF8274)

Dear Mr. Pierce:

By letter dated August 12, 2016, Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. (SNC) submitted a license amendment request to revise the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Unit 2, Technical Specifications (TSs) Limiting Condition for Operation 3.7.9, "Ultimate Heat Sink (UHS)," such that with the 2B Nuclear Service Cooling Water (NSCW) transfer pump inoperable for refurbishment, the Completion Time of Condition 3.7.9.D.2.2 would be 46 days, as opposed to 31 days. This TS change would be a one-time change and in effect only for the 2B NSCW transfer pump for the remainder of Cycle 19.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has been determined that additional information is needed to continue its review. We request that SNC respond to the enclosed request for additional information at its earliest opportunity.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

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