



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION II
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

August 31, 2016

Michael Yox
Regulatory Affairs Director
Southern Nuclear Operating Company
7835 River Road, Bldg. 140, Vogtle 3&4
Waynesboro, GA 30830

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT UNITS 3 & 4 (NRC REPORT 05200025/2016005 AND 05200026/2016005)

Dear Mr. Yox:

On August 8, 2016, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed its mid-cycle performance review of Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) Units 3 & 4. The NRC reviewed inspection results and enforcement actions from January 1, 2016, through June 30, 2016. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and the NRC's plans for future inspections at your facility.

The NRC determined that overall, VEGP Units 3 & 4 were being constructed in a manner that preserved public health and safety and met all cornerstone objectives. The NRC determined the performance at VEGP Units 3 & 4 during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Construction Reactor Oversight Process (cROP) Action Matrix because all inspection findings had very low (i.e., green) safety significance. Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct cROP baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through March 2017. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed are tentative and may be revised based on construction activities at the site. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

M. Yox

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Please contact me at (404) 997-4540 with any questions you have regarding this letter or inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Michael E. Ernstes, Chief
Construction Project Branch 4
Division of Construction Projects

Docket Nos.: 52-00025, 52-00026
License Nos.: NPF-91, NPF-92

Enclosure:
Vogle Units 3&4 Inspection Plan

cc w/encl.: (See next page)

cc w/ encls:

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Letter to Michael Yox from Michael E. Ernstes, dated August 31, 2016

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING
PLANT UNITS 3 & 4 (NRC REPORT 05200025/2016005 AND
05200026/2016005)

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Vogtle_Construction_Support

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Please contact me at (404) 997-4540 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

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Michael E. Ernstes, Chief
Construction Project Branch 4
Division of Construction Projects

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Vogle Units 3&4 Inspection Plan

cc w/encl.: (See next page)

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NAME	M. Ernstes						
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Vogle Units 3&4 Inspection Plan

Programmatic Inspections (IMC 2504)

Construction

Est. Date	Description
Week of Aug 22, 2016	Focus Quality Assurance (QA) – Welding Program, IP 35007
Week of Sep 19, 2016	Fitness For Duty (FFD) Program for Construction, IP 81504. (Note 1)
Week of Nov 14, 2016	Annual QA Inspection, IP 35007
4 th Quarter, 2016	Preoperational Testing portion of Initial Test Program (Admin Manual), IP 70367
4 th Quarter, 2016	Program Managing Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria (ITAAC) Closure, IP 40600

Operational

Est. Date	Description
Week of Sep 19, 2016	Protection of Safeguards Information, IP 71130.06 FFD Program, IP 71130.08 (Note 1)
November, 2016	Preservance Inspection IP 73054
January, 2017	Radiation Protection, portions of IPs 83533, 83535, and 83536

Note 1: same team inspection

ITAAC Inspections (IMC 2503)

Est. Date	Description
3Q 2016 – 1Q 2017	<p>Majority of ITAAC inspection will be associated with the following construction/fabrication activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nuclear island construction (rebar/concrete in NI and inside containment) 2. Structural and mechanical module fabrication 3. Containment vessel (CV) fabrication 4. PXS/RCS Pipe Welding/Pipe Supports 5. NSSS components receipt inspection/installation 6. PMS, HFE and other ITAAC related work at vendors 7. EQDP reviews (at Westinghouse headquarters, PA) (Note 2)

Note 2: Inspection schedule is subject to change based on licensing and construction activities.

