

**From:** Martin, Robert  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 01, 2016 8:04 AM  
**To:** 'crpierce@southernco.com' <crpierce@southernco.com>  
**Cc:** 'McElroy, G. Ken' <GKMCELRO@southernco.com>  
**Subject:** Acceptance Review - TSTF 545 for SNC Plants

On July 28, 2016, Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. (SNC) submitted a License Amendment Request (LAR) (ADAMS ML16214A252) for Farley, Hatch and Vogtle, Units 1 and 2, to Revise Technical Specifications (TS) to Adopt TSTF-545, Revision 3, "TS Inservice Testing Program Removal & Clarify SR Usage Rule Application to Section 5.5 Testing." and for Farley and Vogtle, Units 1 and 2, also submitted a proposed Alternative to the ASME Code. The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of these licensing actions. 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.

Regarding the LAR portion of the submittal, consistent with Section 50.90 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), an amendment to the license (including TS) must fully describe the changes requested, and following, as far as applicable, the form prescribed for original applications. Section 50.34 of 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.

Regarding the proposed Alternative, pursuant to Sections 50.55a(z) of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), the applicant shall demonstrate that the proposed alternatives would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety, or that compliance with the specified requirements of Section 50.55a would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality or safety.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide 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 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.

Docket Nos. 50-348 and 50-364; 50-321 and 50-366; 50-424 and 50-425  
CAC Nos MF8176 – MF8181 and MF8210 – MF8213