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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II

245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

March 23, 2017

EA-16-137

Mr. B. Keith Taber, VP Nuclear Plant Site
Southern Nuclear Operating Co., Inc.
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant
7821 River Road
Waynesboro, GA 30830

SUBJECT: VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT – NOTICE OF VIOLATION,
U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION SECURITY INSPECTION
REPORT 05000424/2017407 AND 05000425/2017407 AND INVESTIGATION
REPORT NO. 2-2015-043

Dear Mr. Taber:

This refers to the investigation completed on June 15, 2016, by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) Office of Investigations (OI) concerning activities at Southern Nuclear Operating Company's (SNC) Vogtle Electric Generating Plant. The purpose of the investigation, in part, was to review a security incident that was identified on June 4, 2015. The results of the investigation, including the identification of an apparent violation, were described in NRC Inspection Report (IR) 05000424, 425/2016407, dated January 18, 2017.

In the letter transmitting the inspection report, we provided you with the opportunity to address the apparent violation identified in the report by either attending a pre-decisional enforcement conference or by providing a written response before we made our final enforcement decision. In a letter dated February 10, 2017, you provided a written response to the apparent violation. As documented in your written response, you accepted the violation, provided the results of your review of this matter, and provided details of your corrective actions to preclude recurrence.

Based on the information developed during the investigation and the information provided in your written response, the NRC has determined that a violation of NRC requirements occurred. The violation is cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice, Enclosure 1), and the circumstances surrounding it are described in detail in the subject NRC Inspection Report. Enclosure 2 to this letter describes the basis for determining the severity level of the violation and the basis for the NRC's conclusion that a civil penalty is not warranted.

~~Enclosure(s) transmitted herewith contain(s) SUNSI. When separated from Enclosure(s), this transmittal document is decontrolled.~~

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For administrative purposes, this letter is issued as NRC Inspection Report 05000424, 425/2017407. Accordingly, the AV documented in NRC Inspection Report 05000424, 425/2016407 is designated as VIO 05000424, 425/2016407-001.

The NRC has concluded that information regarding: (1) the reason for the violation; (2) the corrective actions that have been taken and the results achieved; and (3) the date when full compliance was achieved is already adequately addressed on the docket in SNC's written response dated February 10, 2017. Therefore, you are not required to respond to this letter unless the description therein does not accurately reflect your corrective actions or your position. In that case, or if you choose to provide additional information, you should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice.

This cover letter will be made available for public inspection in the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) at <http://www.nrc.gov/readingrm/adams.html> and at the NRC Public Document Room in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding."

The material enclosed herewith contains Security-Related Information in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390(d)(1) and its disclosure to unauthorized individuals could present a security vulnerability. Therefore, the material in the enclosures will not be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's ADAMS, accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Anthony Gody, Director, Division of Reactor Safety, at 404-997-4600.

Sincerely,

/RA: Leonard D. Wert for/

Catherine Haney
Regional Administrator

Docket Nos.: 50-424 and 50-425
License Nos.: NPF-68 and NPF-81

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. Severity Level and Civil Penalty Assessment

cc: (See page 3)

K. Taber

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cc:

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SUBJECT: VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT – NOTICE OF VIOLATION, U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION SECURITY INSPECTION REPORT 05000424/2017407 AND 05000425/2017407 AND INVESTIGATION REPORT NO. 2-2015-043 – Dated: March 23, 2017

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