

## **Vogtle PEmails**

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**From:** Patel, Chandu  
**Sent:** Friday, July 14, 2017 1:45 PM  
**To:** Vogtle PEmails  
**Subject:** Acceptance Letter for LAR 17-013, Vogtle Units 3 and 4  
**Attachments:** Acceptance Letter 17-013.docx

Please see attached acceptance letter for LAR 17-013 for Vogtle units 3 and 4.

**Chandu Patel, Senior Project Manager**  
**U.S. NRC, Office of New Reactors**  
**NRC/NRO/DNRL/LB4,**  
**Washington, DC 20555-0001**  
**301.415.3025**  
**MS T6C20M**

**Hearing Identifier:** Vogtle\_COL\_Docs\_Public  
**Email Number:** 125

**Mail Envelope Properties** (7f2ae250256646e294e34feb8ce1547c)

**Subject:** Acceptance Letter for LAR 17-013, Vogtle Units 3 and 4  
**Sent Date:** 7/14/2017 1:45:04 PM  
**Received Date:** 7/14/2017 1:45:04 PM  
**From:** Patel, Chandu

**Created By:** Chandu.Patel@nrc.gov

**Recipients:**  
"Vogtle PEmails" <Vogtle.PEmails@nrc.gov>  
Tracking Status: None

**Post Office:** HQPWMSMRS05.nrc.gov

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MESSAGE	248	7/14/2017 1:45:04 PM
Acceptance Letter 17-013.docx	30844	

**Options**  
**Priority:** Standard  
**Return Notification:** No  
**Reply Requested:** No  
**Sensitivity:** Normal  
**Expiration Date:**  
**Recipients Received:**

July 14, 2017

Mr. Brian H. Whitley, Director  
Regulatory Affairs  
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
42 Inverness Center Parkway  
BIN B237  
Birmingham, AL 35242

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE REVIEW OF SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY'S REQUEST FOR LICENSE AMENDMENT (LAR 17-013) AND EXEMPTION FOR THE VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT UNITS 3 AND 4: FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM PIPING THAT MUST REMAIN FUNCTIONAL FOLLOWING A SAFE SHUTDOWN EARTHQUAKE (CAC NO. RP9623)

Dear Mr. Whitley:

By letter dated May 5, 2017 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML17128A120, Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) submitted a request for a license amendment and an exemption to Combined License Numbers NPF-91 and NPF-92, for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant Units 3 and 4, respectively. The requested amendment proposes changes to more clearly define the boundaries and seismic requirements for the portion of the fire protection system (FPS) piping that is required to remain functional following a safe shutdown earthquake (SSE); i.e., the "seismic standpipe system." The proposed changes also include the removal of SSE requirements from pipe lines that do not need to remain functional following an SSE (specifically, the FPS piping that is part of the non-seismic FPS containment spray system and the FPS open tray system).

SNC has also requested an exemption from the provisions of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 52, Appendix D, Section III.B, "Design Certification Rule for the AP1000 Design, Scope and Contents," to allow a departure from the elements of the certification information in Tier 1 of the generic Design Control Document.

The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of these requests. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical reviews. 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.

Consistent with Section 50.90 of the 10 CFR, an amendment to the license must fully describe the changes requested, and follow as far as applicable, the form prescribed for original applications. Section 52.79 of the 10 CFR addresses 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.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability, of the proposed amendment and exemption, 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.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-3025 or [Chandu.Patel@nrc.gov](mailto:Chandu.Patel@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

***R/A***

Chandu Patel, Senior Project Manager  
Licensing Branch 4  
Division of New Reactor Licensing  
Office of New Reactors

Docket No(s): 52-025  
52-026