

July 28, 2017

Docket Nos.: 50-321
50-366

NL-17-1348

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D. C. 20555-0001

Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant – Units 1 & 2
Southern Nuclear Operating Company Licensee Qualification for Performing Safety Analysis
Under Generic Letter 83-11, Supplement 1

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Per Generic Letter (GL) 83-11 Supplement 1, "Licensee Qualification for Performing Safety Analyses", dated June 24, 1999, this letter serves to notify the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) of the intent of Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) to use NRC-approved General Electric Hitachi/Global Nuclear Fuel (GE) methods in performing safety analyses for the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant (HNP) Unit 1 and Unit 2.

By letter dated October 28, 1998, the NRC issued a safety evaluation report (SER) acknowledging SNC's ability to perform its own safety analyses under NRC GL 83-11. The methods qualified under NRC GL 83-11 in the 1990s for use by SNC were the GE steady-state methodology, transient methodology, and General Electric Thermal Analysis Basis (GETAB) methodology. SNC has been performing safety analyses using GE NRC-approved methods as a qualified licensee under NRC GL 83-11 qualification since the early-2000s.

The SNC qualification under NRC GL 83-11 Supplement 1 documented by this letter expands the scope of SNC's existing qualifications to include additional GE methods which were approved by the NRC after the original SNC GL 83-11 SER. SNC intends to use both steady-state and transient NRC-approved GE methods as described in GESTAR II to perform safety analyses associated with steady-state operation, anticipated operational occurrences (AOOs), and special events (i.e., stability). Specifically, the areas in which SNC intends to perform safety analyses under NRC GL 83-11 Supplement 1 include bundle lattice physics and design, steady-state core physics and design, reactivity margin compliance, core thermal-hydraulic analyses, core AOO analyses, safety limit and operating limit determination, and stability analyses.

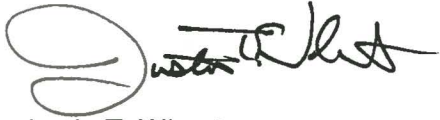
SNC complies with the generic set of guidelines to be met by the licensee in order to be qualified to perform safety analyses with NRC-approved methods per NRC GL 83-11

Supplement 1. The documentation of compliance to NRC GL 83-11 Supplement 1 guidelines is available for NRC audit.

As specified in NRC GL 83-11 Supplement 1, "the licensee should send the NRC a notification of its having followed the guidelines at least 3 months before the date of its intended first licensing application." The date of the first application of SNC qualifications under NRC GL 83-11 Supplement 1 documented by this letter is the startup of HNP Unit 1, Cycle 29, currently scheduled for March 2018.

This letter contains no NRC commitments. If you have any questions, please contact Ken McElroy at 205.992.7369.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin T. Wheat". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

Justin T. Wheat
Nuclear Licensing Manager

JTW/RMJ

Cc: Regional Administrator, Region II
NRR Project Manager – Hatch
Senior Resident Inspector – Hatch
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