

Vogle PEmails

From: Kallan, Paul
Sent: Thursday, February 08, 2018 6:18 PM
To: Vogle PEmails
Subject: Vogle Acceptance Letter for LAR 18-005
Attachments: Acceptance Letter for Vogle for Fuel Management Related Technical Specifications
LAR 18-005(1).docx

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Subject: Vogtle Acceptance Letter for LAR 18-005
Sent Date: 2/8/2018 6:17:47 PM
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From: Kallan, Paul

Created By: Paul.Kallan@nrc.gov

Recipients:
"Vogtle PEmails" <Vogtle.PEmails@nrc.gov>
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MESSAGE	3	2/8/2018 6:17:57 PM
Acceptance Letter for Vogtle for Fuel Management Related Technical Specifications LAR 18-005(1).docx		
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Reply Requested: No
Sensitivity: Normal
Expiration Date:
Recipients Received:

February 8, 2018

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 18-005) AND EXEMPTION FOR THE VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT UNITS 3 AND 4: FUEL MANAGEMENT RELATED TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS (EPID NO. L-2018-LLA-0019)

Dear Mr. Whitley:

By letter dated January 31, 2018 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML18031B142, Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) submitted a request for a license amendment to Combined License (COL) Numbers NPF-91 and NPF-92, for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) Units 3 and 4, respectively. The requested amendment proposes to include changes to COL Appendix A, Technical Specifications (TS) related to fuel management. Specifically, the requested amendment proposes changes to:

- A. Revise TS 3.1.7, Rod Position Indication, to clarify the actions to be taken in the event rod position indication is not OPERABLE. A note is proposed to be added to Surveillance Requirement (SR) 3.1.7.1 which will not be required for rods determined to not meet Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) 3.1.4. Additional consistency updates are proposed. A corollary note is being added to SR 3.1.4.1 stating that the SR is not required to be performed for a rod associated with inoperable Digital Rod Position Indication (DRP) or demand position indication.
- B. Revise TS 1.1, Definitions, and SR 3.1.3, Rod Group Alignment Limits, to extend applicability to both stationary and movable gripper coils.
- C. Revise SR 3.2.4.1, Quadrant Power Tilt Ratio Verification, and TS 3.2.3 LCO Note 4 to refer to the power range channel by its full name "Power Range Neutron Flux channel."
- D. Revise TS 4.2.2, Design Features – Control Rod and Gray Rod Assemblies, to clarify that Gray Rod Cluster Assemblies (GRCAs) in conjunction with Rod Cluster Control Assemblies (RCCAs) are used to augment mechanical shim in both normal and load follow operations.

The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of the LAR. 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 Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (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 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.

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 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.

You have requested an issuance date of August 30, 2018. We will attempt to support that date but it will depend on whether supplements to your request are needed. If the change is needed sooner than that date to support construction, please consider submitting a request for a PAR.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-2809 or Paul.Kallan@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Paul Kallan, Senior Project Manager
Licensing Branch 4
Division of New Reactor Licensing
Office of New Reactors

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