



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 7, 2018

Brian H. Whitley, Director
Regulatory Affairs
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
42 Inverness Center Parkway, B22
Birmingham, AL 35242

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE REVIEW OF SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING
COMPANY'S LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST FOR THE VOGTLE
ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT UNITS 3 AND 4: ENGINEERED SAFETY
FEATURE SAFEGUARDS ACTUATION TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS
APPLICABILITY CHANGES (LAR 18-011)

Mr. Whitley:

By letter dated May 18, 2018 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML18138A396), Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) submitted a license amendment to change COL Appendix A, Technical Specifications.

The requested amendment proposes to change TS Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) 3.3.8 Engineered Safety Feature Actuation System (ESFAS) Instrumentation, related to Safeguard Actuation Functions. Various ESFAS Functions require Applicability and corresponding Actions changes to more accurately reflect their operation and related safety analysis assumptions.

The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this amendment request. 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 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.

Consistent with Section 50.90 of the 10 CFR, an amendment to the license must fully describe the changes requested, and following 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 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.

B. Whitley

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SNC has requested NRC staff approval of this LAR by November 15, 2018. The staff will attempt to support that date but it will depend on whether supplements to your request are needed. If the change is needed to support construction, please consider submitting a Preliminary Amendment Request (PAR).

If you have any questions, please contact Senior Project Manager, Peter Hearn, at (301) 415-1189 or Peter.Hearn@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Peter Hearn, Senior Project Manager
Licensing Branch 4 (LB4)
Division of Licensing, Siting, and
Environmental Analysis
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos.: 52-025
52-026

cc: See next page

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE REVIEW OF SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY'S LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST FOR THE VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT UNITS 3 AND 4: ENGINEERED SAFETY FEATURE SAFEGUARDS ACTUATION TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS APPLICABILITY CHANGES(LAR 18-011) DATED JUNE 7, 2018

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(Revised 03/13/2018)

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