From: Hall, Randy

To: <u>JAMIEMCO@SOUTHERNCO.COM</u>

Cc: <u>Joyce, Ryan M. (RMJOYCE@southernco.com)</u>

Subject: NRC Acceptance Review for Hatch 1 and 2 - LAR to Revise TS 3.6.4.1, Secondary Containment (EPID L-2018-

LLA-0288)

**Date:** Thursday, November 29, 2018 3:33:00 PM

November 29, 2018

Ms. Jamie Coleman Licensing Manager Southern Nuclear Operating Company

Dear Ms. Coleman,

By letter dated October 17, 2018, Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. (SNC) submitted a license amendment request (LAR) for the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2 (Hatch), (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML18290A940; EPID L-2018-LLA-0288). The LAR would modify the Actions associated with Technical Specification (TS) 3.6.4.1, "Secondary Containment," to allow up to 7 days to determine and correct the cause of secondary containment degradation when at least one combination of standby gas treatment subsystems can maintain adequate secondary containment vacuum. The purpose of this e-mail 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.

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. If additional information is needed, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

Based on the information provided in your submittal, the NRC staff has estimated that this licensing request will take approximately 260 staff hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review in approximately 10 months, by August 31, 2019, which would meet your requested date of October 4, 2019. If there are emergent complexities or challenges in our review that would cause changes to the initial forecasted completion date or significant changes in the forecasted hours, the reasons for the changes, along with the new estimates, will be communicated during the routine interactions between your staff and the assigned NRC project manager.

These estimates are based on the NRC staff's initial review of the application and they could change, due to several factors including requests for additional information,

unanticipated addition of scope to the review, and review by NRC advisory committees or hearing-related activities.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-4032.

Sincerely,

Randy Hall, Senior Project Manager Plant Licensing Branch II-1 Division of Operating Reactor Licensing Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation USNRC (301) 415-4032 Randy.Hall@nrc.gov