



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

April 18, 2019

Mr. Brian H. Whitley, Director  
Regulatory Affairs  
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.  
3535 Colonnade Parkway, Bin N-226-EC  
Birmingham, AL 35243

SUBJECT: VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 3 AND 4 — ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENTS AND GRANTING OF EXEMPTIONS REGARDING POWER OPERATED RELIEF VALVE NOISE MITIGATION (LAR-18-021) (EPID L-2018-LLA-0225)

Dear Mr. Whitley:

In response to your application dated August 10, 2018, revised October 11, 2018, and supplemented February 15, 2019, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has granted the enclosed Exemptions and issued the enclosed Amendment Nos. 159 and 157 to Combined License (COL) Nos. NPF-91 and NPF-92 for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) Units 3 and 4, respectively.

The amendment authorizes changes in the form of departures from the generic AP1000 Design Control Document Tier 1 and Tier 2 information in the VEGP COL plant-specific Design Control Document (PS-DCD), the associated COL Appendix C, and the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR) to relocate the power operated relief valve (PORV) branch lines upstream of the main steam safety valves in the main steam lines. In addition to the relocation of the PORV branch lines, the PORV block valves would be changed from gate valves to globe valves in the UFSAR. Specifically, this amendment results in changes to COL Appendix C (plant-specific Tier 1) Figure 2.2.1-1, Figure 2.2.4-1 (Sheets 1 and 2), and UFSAR Figure 10.3.2-1 (Sheets 1 and 2), UFSAR Figure 3E-1 (Sheets 1 and 2), UFSAR Table 3.9-16, UFSAR Table 6.2.3-1, and UFSAR Table 10.3.3-1.

The exemptions allow changes that impact Tier 1 information in the PS-DCD and Appendix C of the facility COL as specified in LAR-18-021. These exemptions are related to, and necessary for, the granting of the amendment which is being issued concurrently.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation, which includes the evaluation of the amendments and exemptions, is also enclosed. The notice of issuance of the amendment and exemption documents included in this letter will be published in the *Federal Register*.

Sincerely,

***/RA Jennifer L. Dixon-Herrity for/***

William (Billy) Gleaves, Senior Project Manager  
Licensing Branch 2  
Division of Licensing, Siting,  
and Environmental Analysis  
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos.: 52-025  
52-026

Enclosures:

1. Exemption for License Amendment No. 159  
to VEGP Unit 3 COL
2. Exemption for License Amendment No. 157  
to VEGP Unit 4 COL
3. Amendment No. 159 to VEGP Unit 3 COL
4. Amendment No. 157 to VEGP Unit 4 COL
5. Safety Evaluation

cc: See next page

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