

Vogle PEmails

From: Kallan, Paul
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2019 8:30 AM
To: Vogle PEmails
Subject: Acceptance letter for LAR 19-001
Attachments: Acceptance letter for LAR 19-001.docx

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Subject: Acceptance letter for LAR 19-001
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From: Kallan, Paul

Created By: Paul.Kallan@nrc.gov

Recipients:
"Vogtle PEmails" <Vogtle.PEmails@nrc.gov>
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April 10, 2019

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

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE REVIEW OF SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY'S REQUEST FOR LICENSE AMENDMENT (LAR 19-001) FOR THE VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT UNITS 3 AND 4 – PROTECTION AND SAFETY MONITORING SYSTEM (PMS) SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENT REDUCTION TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION (EPID L-2019-LLA-0064)

Dear Mr. Whitley:

By letter dated March 25, 2019 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under Accession No. ML19084A308), Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC/licensee) submitted a license amendment request (LAR) 19-001 for 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 change the Technical Specifications (COL Appendix A), as well as plant-specific Tier 2 information. Specifically, the requested amendment proposes to change Technical Specification (TS) Sections 1.0, 3.1 3.2, 3.3, 3.9, and 5.5. The Surveillance Requirements (SRs) requirement manual Channel Checks, Channel Operational Tests (COTs), Actuation Logic Tests (ALTs) and Actuation Logic Output Tests (ALOTs) to be performed on PMS components are proposed to be removed from the TSs. The approach for satisfying the reactor trip and engineered safety feature actuation system (ESFAS) response time test SRs for the PMS racks is proposed to be changed.

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.

SNC has requested NRC staff approval of this LAR by November 19, 2019. As we agreed, the staff intends to complete this action by November 19, 2019 as requested, unless we agree to a different date at a later time due to circumstances beyond our control. The staff estimates that it may take 660 staff hours to complete this licensing action.

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 Nos.: 52-025
52-026