



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

Dr. Michael D. Meier  
Southern Nuclear Operating Company  
3535 Colonnade Parkway  
Birmingham, AL 35243

Dear Dr. Meier:

I am responding to the petition for rulemaking that you submitted to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on behalf of Southern Nuclear Operating Company, dated February 28, 2019 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML19081A015). You requested that the NRC amend its regulations in 10 CFR part 171 related to the start of assessment of annual fees for a holder of a combined license under 10 CFR Part 52, "Licenses, Certifications, and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants," to align with the commencement of commercial operation of the facility. The NRC docketed your petition on March 21, 2019, and assigned it Docket No. PRM-171-1.

The NRC published a notice of docketing in the *Federal Register* on June 10, 2019 (84 FR 26774). In the notice of docketing, the NRC requested public comment on your petition. The staff received five public comment submissions during the 30-day public comment period and has addressed the comments in the enclosed *Federal Register* notice.

The NRC reviewed your petition and the public comments. The NRC determined that the issue raised in PRM-171-1 does not necessitate rulemaking; therefore, the NRC is denying PRM-171-1. The enclosed notice, which will be published in the *Federal Register*, explains the reasons for the denial. Upon publication of the enclosed notice, the NRC will close the docket for PRM-171-1.

You may direct any questions about this matter to Ms. Victoria Huckabay by calling 301-415-5183 or sending an e-mail to [Victoria.Huckabay@nrc.gov](mailto:Victoria.Huckabay@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

Annette L. Vietti-Cook  
Secretary of the Commission

Enclosure:  
*Federal Register* notice