



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

November 22, 2019

MEMORANDUM TO: Victor Hall, Chief
Vogtle Project Office
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Jennivine Rankin, Project Manager */RA/*
Vogtle Project Office
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF A PUBLIC MEETING WITH SOUTHERN NUCLEAR
OPERATING COMPANY ON OCTOBER 10, 2019

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff held a Category 1 public meeting with Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) on October 10, 2019. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss License Amendment Request (LAR) 19-017, "Removal of the Preoperational Passive Residual Heat Removal Heat Exchanger Natural Circulation Test" and a proposed LAR and exemption associated with modification of the primary coolant system (PCS) wetted perimeter test.

The meeting notice can be found in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML19248C473. The meeting notice was posted on the NRC public website. Enclosures 1 and 2 are the meeting agenda and attendance list for the meeting, respectively. The documents referenced during the discussion can be found at the ADAMS Accession Nos. given below:

- LAR 19-017: Removal of the Preoperational Passive Residual Heat Removal Heat Exchanger Natural Circulation ML19249C738
- Draft LAR associated with PCS wetted perimeter test modification ML19275J920
- Presentation for the PCS wetted perimeter test modification LAR ML19281C241

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Summary of Meeting:Technical Discussion on Removal of the Preoperational Passive Residual Heat Removal Heat Exchanger Natural Circulation (LAR 19-017)

On October 10, 2019, staff from the NRC conducted a public meeting with representatives from SNC to discuss LAR 19-017. The LAR requests a change to remove the natural circulation test of the passive residual heat removal (PRHR) heat exchanger, which is conducted during preoperational testing, from the scope of the initial test program. At a previous public meeting on September 26, 2019 (meeting summary can be found at ADAMS Accession No. ML19270G587), the NRC explained the reasons that it did not find adequate justification for the proposed removal of an initial test and related modification to Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria (ITAAC) requiring SNC to conduct a PRHR heat exchanger natural circulation test. During this meeting, the NRC reiterated its concern that the forced flow test would not be equivalent to the natural circulation test. SNC explained the methods they will use to validate flowrates, specifically highlighting driving head and line resistance calculations. SNC also discussed other options they have considered such as shortening the natural circulation test or performing the test at a lower temperature. The public meeting concluded with the NRC reiterating that it does not have sufficient information to complete its acceptance review. The NRC offered two potential paths forward for SNC to consider:

1. SNC submit supplemental information to describe how the forced flow scheme will meet the acceptance criteria for the natural circulation test.
2. SNC evaluate if the natural circulation test could be conducted at lower temperature or at a shorter duration.

Portions of the meeting were closed to the public due to proprietary discussion technical details.

At the conclusion of each presentation, there was an opportunity for the public to provide comments and to ask questions to the NRC staff. The NRC provided the public additional information regarding the kind of topics that were going to be discussed during the proprietary portion of the meeting and also if the tests were done with different heat removal capacities.

Pre-submittal Meeting on Proposed LAR and Exemption Associated with Modification of the PCS Wetted Perimeter Test

On October 10, 2019, staff from the NRC conducted a public meeting with representatives from SNC to conduct a pre-submittal meeting for a proposed LAR and exemption associated with modification of the PCS wetted perimeter test. SNC discussed the reason for the proposed

change and the proposed licensing bases changes. The NRC asked clarifying questions to understand the bases of the statements made in the LAR. SNC took an action to evaluate the following changes to the draft LAR:

1. Add language to describe how the test is performed to confirm the wetted perimeter coverage.
2. Clarify the percentage of coverage will be dependent on the different elevation and circumferences.

Docket Nos.: 52-025
52-026

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/encls: See next page

**AGENDA FOR PUBLIC MEETING
U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC)
Thursday, October 10, 2019
Teleconference
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

PURPOSE: To discuss issues associated with the safety review of licensing actions for Southern Nuclear Operating Company's (SNC) Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) Units 3 and 4.

OPEN

<u>Time</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Led By</u>
9:00 a.m.	Opening Remarks	NRC
9:10 a.m.	Discussion of Identified Topics	NRC/SNC
	Opportunity for Public Comment	NRC/Public
	Open Portion Concludes	
<u>CLOSED.</u>	(If needed)	NRC/SNC
12:00 p.m.	Adjourn	

Enclosure 1

PUBLIC MEETING
U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
Thursday, October 10, 2019
One White Flint North, Room O-11B4
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

List of Attendees

Name	Organization
Representing the Nuclear Regulatory Commission	
Chandu Patel Jennivine Rankin Jennifer Dixon-Herrity Don Habib Vic Hall Chris Welch	NRO/DLSE
Ryan Nolan Becky Karas Kevin Coyne Harry Wagage Bob Caldwell Chang Li	NRO/DSER
Mike King	NRO
Representing Industry	
Steven Unikewicz* Kelli Roberts* Nick Kellenberger* Ryan Henderson* Mark Wilson*	Southern Nuclear Company
Jen Meneely* Mike Patterson* Natalie Rodgers* Venki Prabhu* Oscar Vinals* Jimmy Hennen* Zach Harper*	Westinghouse Electric Company
Members of the Public	
Steve Franzone*	Florida Power and Light
Bill Freebairn*	Platts
Wayne Marquino*	Public

* = participated via teleconference

Vogtle Units 3 & 4 Mailing List

(Revised 08/13/2019)

cc:

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