



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

December 5, 2019

MEMORANDUM TO: Victor E. 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 24, 2019

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff held a Category 1 public meeting with Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) on October 24, 2019. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a draft supplement to License Amendment Request (LAR) 19-016, "Reinforcement Changes for Wall L and Wall 7.3," and to conduct a technical exchange on LAR 19-017, "Removal of the Preoperational Passive Residual Heat Removal Heat Exchanger Natural Circulation Test," and LAR 19-001, "Protection and Safety Monitoring System Surveillance Requirement Reduction Technical Specification Revision."

The meeting notice can be found in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under Accession No. ML19248C482. The meeting notice is also posted on the NRC website. Enclosures 1 and 2 are the meeting agenda and attendance list for the meeting, respectively. The other documents referenced during the discussion can be found at the ADAMS Accession Nos. given below:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft Revision to LAR 19-016 and associated Preliminary Amendment Report (PAR): Reinforcement Changes for Wall L and Wall 7.3	ML19296A014
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• LAR 19-017: Removal of the Preoperational Passive Residual Heat Removal (PRHR) Heat Exchanger Natural Circulation	ML19249C738
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supplement to LAR 19-001: Protection and Safety Monitoring System Surveillance Requirement Reduction Technical Specification Revision	ML19280E414

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Summary of Meeting:Technical Discussion on Draft Revision to LAR 19-016: Reinforcement Changes for Wall L and Wall 7.3 and Associated PAR

Staff from the NRC discussed a draft revision to LAR 19-016 with SNC. SNC provided an overview of the draft revision which is being proposed to include additional evaluation because the as-built amount of vertical reinforcement provided does not meet the specified minimum provided reinforcement in the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report for Wall L. The already submitted LAR 19-016 (ADAMS Accession No. ML19234A327), under review by the NRC staff, addresses the horizontal nonconformities. The NRC made a few observations for SNC to consider which are described below:

- Clarify in the LAR which elements are stressed from the vertical rebar nonconformance. Confirm whether they are analyzed and outline the determination made.
- Modify language on page 12 of Enclosure 3 to describe the effect on the stiffness of the seismic model to be negligible. Evaluate making any conforming changes to the planned submitted PAR.
- Specify the previous shear friction capacity during discussion about the construction joint on page 13 of Enclosure 3.

SNC expected the revised LAR and associated PAR to be submitted by October 25, 2019 and will request a "no objection" finding for the PAR by November 15, 2019.

At the conclusion of the presentation, there was an opportunity for the public to provide comments and ask questions. There were no comments or questions from the public.

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

Staff from the NRC discussed LAR 19-017 with SNC. The LAR requests a change to remove the natural circulation test of the PRHR heat exchanger, which is conducted during preoperational testing, from the scope of the initial test program. This LAR had been discussed at two previous public meetings (see ADAMS Accession Nos. ML19270G587 and ML19294A113 for meeting summaries). During the meeting, SNC reiterated the following points:

- Natural Circulation and Forced Flow when applied to PRHR heat exchanger tests, describe the flow driving mechanism.
- The technical difference between forced flow testing and natural circulation do not provide additional insights beyond what can be obtained from the test with regards to flow rate or heat transfer performance.
- The forced flow test approximately measures heat transfer of as-installed PRHR heat exchanger at elevated temperatures, providing design and construction requirements of the PRHR heat exchangers are met.
- Any potential construction impacts affecting flow rate or PRHR heat exchanger performance will be become apparent during the forced flow test.

The NRC staff agreed that the heat transfer characteristics of the two tests are similar. However, removal of the preoperational PRHR heat exchanger natural circulation test would

eliminate demonstration of initiating and establishing natural circulation. Therefore, the NRC staff noted a possible solution is to conduct some kind of test during power ascension testing as part of the initial test program to demonstrate natural circulation can be initiated and established to demonstrate that natural circulation flow rate can be fully developed. This could be done in conjunction with an already existing test. SNC representatives also stated it could be possible to analytically justify the mechanisms that initiate and establish natural circulation. NRC staff agreed that such a demonstration might be possible but would likely require more technical detail that has not yet been provided as part of the LAR and thus would entail a commensurately more detailed review. SNC took this as an action to evaluate and will communicate with the NRC staff of any changes to their submitted LAR.

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

At the conclusion of the presentation, there was an opportunity for the public to provide comments and ask questions. There were no comments or questions from the public.

Technical Discussion on Protection and Safety Monitoring System Surveillance Requirement Reduction Technical Specification Revision

Staff from the NRC discussed LAR 19-001 with SNC. The NRC staff had a question regarding language in Enclosure 9, page 21, relating to the Actuation Logic Test. The NRC sought to clarify if there was a frequency change for the reactor trip matrix (RTM) and DO630 from 92 days to 92 days staggered (approximately 1 year) as a result of the elimination of Surveillance Requirement (SR) 3.3.6.1. SNC noted that currently the RTM and DO630 were being tested on a more frequent basis of 92 days because of inclusion in SR 3.3.6.1. However, with the elimination of SR 3.3.6.1, there is justification to support the frequency of approximately 1 year because of the industry operating experience, reliability, and operating history data.

At the conclusion of the presentation, there was an opportunity for the public to provide comments and ask questions. There were no comments or questions from the public.

Docket Nos.: 52-025
52-026

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/encls: See next page

SUMMARY OF A PUBLIC MEETING WITH SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY
ON OCTOBER 24, 2019 DATED: December 5, 2019

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ADAMS Accession No.: ML19339G918

*via e-mail

NRC-001

OFFICE	PM: VPO	LA: VPO	PM: VPO	BC: VPO
NAME	JRankin* (c)	RButler*	CPatel*	VHall
DATE	10/29/19	10/29/19	11/4/19	11/19/19
OFFICE	PM: VPO			
NAME	JRankin (s)			
DATE	12/05/19			

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**AGENDA FOR PUBLIC MEETING
U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC)
Thursday, October 24, 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
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12:00 p.m.	Adjourn	
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Enclosure 1

Enclosure 2

PUBLIC MEETING
U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
Thursday, October 24, 2019
One White Flint North, Room O-8B4
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

List of Attendees

Name	Organization
Representing the Nuclear Regulatory Commission	
Victor Hall Chandu Patel Jennivine Rankin Chris Welch* Don Habib Cayetano Santos*	NRR/VPO
Pravin Patel Maryam Khan Dinesh Taneja Jack Zhao Stewart Bailey	NRR/DEX
Becky Karas Ryan Nolan Hanry Wagage Craig Harbuck Vic Cusumano	NRR/DSS
Boyce Travis	NRR/DANU
Representing Industry	
Mark Humprhey* Tom Hicks* Nick Kellenberger* Kelli Roberts Steve Unikewicz Amy Chamberlain* Stephanie Agee* Mark Wilson* Pareez Golub* Michael Elmer* Bob Hirmapour* Jonathon Hartman* Steve Merkiel*	Southern Nuclear Operating Company

Name	Organization
Jen Meneely* Si Su* Talor Easterling* Jim Rindfusz* Zach Harper Catherine Pratt* Venki Prabhu Warren Odess-Gillett* Richard Paese* John Wiesman*	Westinghouse Electric Company
Members of the Public	
Steve Franzone*	Florida Power and Light

* = participated via teleconference

Vogtle Units 3 & 4 Mailing List

(Revised 05/08/2019)

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Gwendolyn Jackson
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