



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

January 10, 2020

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 DECEMBER 19, 2019

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff held a Category 1 public meeting with Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) on December 19, 2019. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss SNC's Request for Alternative Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) 3&4-IST-ALT-01, "Alternative Requirements for Inservice Test Interval Code Edition, Unit 4," and a proposed license amendment request regarding the core makeup tank boron concentration.

The meeting notice can be found in Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML19294A080. The meeting notice is also posted on the NRC public 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:

• VEGP 3&4-IST-ALT-01: Alternative Requirements for Inservice Test Interval Code Edition, Unit 4	ML19304C432
• Discussion Topics for VEGP 3&4-IST-ALT-01	ML19340A072
• Slides for Core Makeup Tank Boron Concentration Surveillance Requirement	ML19347A394

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Summary of Meeting:Technical Discussion VEGP 3&4-IST-ALT-01: Alternative Requirements for Inservice Test Interval Code Edition, Unit 4

On December 19, 2019, staff from the NRC conducted a public meeting with representatives from SNC to discuss VEGP 3&4-IST-ALT-01. The discussion is summarized below:

- SNC used the 2012 Edition of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Code for Operation and Maintenance of Nuclear Power Plants in lieu of other available options because the preservice testing for Units 3 and 4 use the 2012 Edition. This would allow for a smoother transition between preservice testing and inservice testing (IST).
- SNC noted that with the current information, it is targeted that Unit 3 will have a 10 year initial IST interval and Unit 4 will have a 9 year IST interval, as the proposed alternative does not affect the interval requirements for Unit 3.
- SNC noted that with its lessons learned, they do not anticipate that Unit 4 fuel load will be significantly delayed. Should a delay occur, SNC noted that they would consider a new alternative request.

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 Exchange on Core Makeup Tank (CMT) Boron Concentration Surveillance Requirement

On December 19, 2019, staff from the NRC conducted a public meeting with representatives from SNC on a proposed license amendment request (LAR) regarding the CMT boron concentration surveillance requirement. The discussion is summarized below:

- SNC explained that frequent sampling of the CMT causes the CMT to be diluted by the makeup from the reactor coolant system (RCS) at each sampling.
- SNC is considering changing the frequency of boron sampling from once every 7 days (Surveillance Requirement 3.5.2.5) to a conditional frequency where various indications are monitored.
- SNC noted its supporting analysis has not been finalized.
- The NRC staff noted that the LAR should explain the different leakage pathways including the various valves and sample lines and how the leakage from the CMT would be detected. The staff also stated that dilution via diffusion of the higher concentration boron in the CMT to the RCS cold leg should be considered. In addition, the staff noted the possibility of slow leaks which may not be detected by the technical specification for RCS leakage, or other means.
- The staff noted that the potential leakage paths and the dilution of boric acid due to diffusion into the RCS should be evaluated to determine the minimum rates that can be reliably detected. The evaluation should assume leakage and diffusion at the detectable limits to demonstrate that excessive dilution of boron in the CMT cannot occur when the conditional sampling frequency methodology is developed.
- The NRC noted that moving from a 7-day frequency for verification of the boron concentration in the CMT to a conditional frequency may result in a more intensive NRC review if there is no reasonable frequency backstop.

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 See next page

SUMMARY OF A PUBLIC MEETING WITH SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY
ON DECEMBER 19, 2019 DATED: January 10, 2020

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***via e-mail**

NRC-001

OFFICE	PM: NRR/VPO	LA: NRR/VPO	PM: NRR/VPO	BC: NRR/VPO
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OFFICE	PM: NRR/VPO			
NAME	JRankin (s)			
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**AGENDA FOR PUBLIC MEETING
U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC)
Thursday, December 19, 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, December 19, 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	
Jennivine Rankin Don Habib Vic Hall Mike King Tanny Santos	NRR/VPO
Nicholas Hansing	NRR/DEX
Steven Bloom Matt Yoder* Tony Gardner	NRR/DNRL
John Budzynski Becky Karas Joshua Miller* Steven Smith Vic Cusumano Ryan Nolan	NRR/DSS
Representing Industry	
Jennifer Harrelson* Chris Pendleton* Mark Wilson* Jerri Byers* Eddie Grant* Michael Elmer* Dan Williamson* Adam Quarles* Amy Chamberlain* Ryan Henderson*	Southern Nuclear Operating Company
Zach Harper* Remington Iddings*	Westinghouse Electric Company

* = participated via teleconference

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Revised 11/12/2019)

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