



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

November 10, 1993

Docket Nos. 50-424
and 50-425

Mr. C. K. McCoy
Vice President - Nuclear
Vogtle Project
Georgia Power Company
P. O. Box 1295
Birmingham, Alabama 35201

Dear Mr. McCoy:

SUBJECT: DENIAL OF AMENDMENT REQUEST - VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT,
UNITS 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS. M82135 AND M82136)

By letter dated November 7, 1991, as revised June 17, 1992, you proposed amendments to change Technical Specifications (TS) 3/4.6.1.7 and 4.6.1.2f for Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (Vogtle), Units 1 and 2. The proposed changes would have clarified the action statements and surveillance requirements for the containment purge supply and exhaust isolation valves, regarding testing of the valves in the reverse direction of flow.

The NRC staff has reviewed the proposed changes and, as discussed in the enclosed Safety Evaluation, finds it unacceptable. We disagree with your contention that the purpose of the required quarterly surveillance tests is to identify excessive degradation of the valves' resilient seals. The staff believes that the purpose of the quarterly surveillance test is to verify the operability of the valve at a frequency that would detect incipient gross failure, thus, allowing you to take action to prevent the failure. You have failed to demonstrate that the proposed testing of the valves in the reverse direction will provide equivalent or more conservative results as required by Section III.C of Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50. Your proposal to verify leak tightness in the reverse direction does not adequately address the concerns identified in Information Notice No. 88-73, "Direction Dependent Leak Characteristics of Containment Purge Valves."

Since your proposed amendments are not supported by sufficient technical information, your request for license amendments is denied. The staff's decision to deny these amendments was discussed with your staff on October 13, 1993.

A copy of the Notice of Denial of Amendments and Opportunity for Hearing to be published in the Federal Register is enclosed for your information.

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Mr. C. K. McCoy

- 2 -

November 10, 1993

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (301) 504-1465

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

C. E. Carpenter, Jr., Acting Project Manager
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:

- 1. Safety Evaluation
- 2. Notice of Denial

cc w/enclosures:
See next page

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DATE	10/28/93	10/28/93	11/5/93	11/9/93

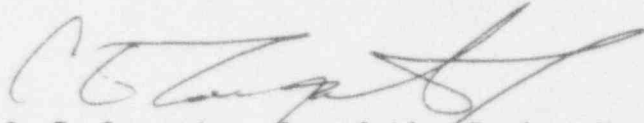
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Mr. C. K. McCoy

- 2 - November 10, 1993

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (301) 504-1465

Sincerely,



C. E. Carpenter, Jr., Acting Project Manager
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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See next page

Mr. C. K. McCoy
Georgia Power Company

Vogtle Electric Generating Plant

cc:

Mr. J. A. Bailey
Manager - Licensing
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