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March 6, 2020

Docket No.: 52-026

ND-20-0204
10 CFR 50.12
10 CFR 50, Appendix E

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

**Southern Nuclear Operating Company
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant Unit 4
Request for Exemption from 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix E Exercise Requirements**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 50.12, *Specific Exemptions*, Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC), requests an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix E, Section IV.F.2.a.iii as applicable to Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) Unit 4 (License Number NPF-92). Specifically, SNC requests an exemption from the 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix E, Section IV.F.2.a.iii requirement for an applicant who currently has an operating reactor at the site to perform an exercise, either full or partial participation, for each subsequent reactor constructed on the site.

VEGP Unit 4 is of the same reactor design type as VEGP Unit 3 and shares the same operating site as VEGP Units 1, 2 and 3. VEGP Unit 3 will have already successfully completed an emergency preparedness exercise per the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix E, Section IV.F.2.a.iii, commenced initial fuel load, and established an 8-calendar-year exercise cycle which incorporates both VEGP Unit 3 and Unit 4 drill and exercise requirements, prior to VEGP Unit 4 commencing initial fuel load. The requested exemption would allow VEGP Unit 4 to credit the VEGP Unit 3 exercise to meet the exercise requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix E, Section IV.F.2.a.iii for an applicant currently having an operating reactor on site.

Enclosure 1 provides the background and supporting basis for the requested exemption.

This letter contains no regulatory commitments. This letter has been reviewed and determined not to contain security-related information.

SNC requests NRC staff approval of the requested exemption by December 31, 2020. Approval by this date will eliminate the planning, coordination, scheduling and exercise development activities associated with conducting a VEGP Unit 4 exercise prior to VEGP Unit 4 initial fuel load.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. Steve Leighty at (706) 848-6790.

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on the 6th day of March 2020.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Yox
Regulatory Affairs Director Vogtle 3&4

MJY/RLB/sfr

Enclosures 1) VEGP Unit 4 – Request for Exemption from 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix E
Exercise Requirements

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