



50-424

UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 15, 1996

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

SUBJECT: NRC STAFF'S EVALUATION OF THE VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT,  
UNITS 1 AND 2, INDIVIDUAL PLANT EXAMINATION (IPE) SUBMITTAL  
(ELV-05099) (TAC NCS. M74485 AND M74486)

Dear Mr. McCoy:

By letter dated December 23, 1992, and supplemented September 13, October 2, and October 23, 1995, you responded to Generic Letter (GL) 88-20, "Individual Plant Examinations for Severe Accident Vulnerabilities," and Supplements 1 and 2, thereto. With the assistance of our contractors, we have completed our review of the IPE submittal for internal events and internal flooding. The evaluation package consists of:

- The Staff Evaluation Report (SER) (Enclosure 1)
- The contractor's Technical Evaluation Reports (TERs) for the front-end, back-end, and human reliability analysis reviews (Enclosures 2, 3, and 4)

The Vogtle IPE submittal did not identify any severe accident vulnerabilities associated with either core damage or poor containment performance. We noted that as a result of the IPE, you implemented a number of procedural enhancements which were reflected in your core damage frequency (CDF) estimate of 4.9.E-5 per reactor year from internally initiated events, including internal flooding.

Based on our review of the Vogtle IPE submittal and associated documentation, we conclude that you have fully met the intent of Generic Letter 88-20.

Your submittal of December 23, 1992, stated that you were providing the information requested by Generic Letter 88-20, as well as Supplements 1 and 2, thereto. The information you provided on potential vulnerabilities to localized hydrogen generation also adequately responds to Supplement 3 to Generic Letter 88-20.

Generic Letter 88-20 suggested that licensees could use their IPE submittals to address, among other safety issues, Unresolved Safety Issue (USI) A-45, "Shutdown Decay Heat Removal Requirements," and USI A-17, "Systems Interactions in Nuclear Power Plants." In subsection 3.4.4 of your IPE submittal, you specifically proposed that USI A-45 be considered for closure by the IPE. You also stated that USI A-17 insights regarding flooding and water intrusion from

internal plant sources had been considered in the IPE process. As discussed in the SER and more specifically in the front-end TER, we agree with your conclusion that the contribution to the CDF from internal flooding is negligible. The IPE submittal adequately resolves these two generic issues for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2.

If you have any comments or questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1444.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Louis L. Wheeler, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate II-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-424 and 50-425

- Enclosures: 1. Staff Evaluation
- 2. TER (Front-End)
- 3. TER (Back-End)
- 4. TER (Human Reliability Analysis)

cc w/encls: See next page

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Louis L. Wheeler, Senior Project Manager  
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cc w/encls: See next page

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Vogtle Electric Generating Plant

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