



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

July 8, 2020

MEMORANDUM TO: Victor E. Hall, Chief  
Vogtle Project Office  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Michael Webb, Senior Reactor Operations Engineer */RA/*  
Vogtle Project Office  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF JUNE 18, 2020, PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS THE  
VOGTLE READINESS GROUP

On June 18, 2020, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff held a virtual Category 3 public meeting to discuss the Vogtle Readiness Group (VRG), an internal working group established to provide oversight and coordination of NRC activities up to and including the transition to operations at Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (Vogtle), Units 3 and 4.

The meeting notice can be found in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML20167A006. The meeting notice was also posted on the NRC public website. Enclosures 1 and 2 are the meeting agenda and attendance list for the meeting, respectively. The NRC staff presentation can be found at ADAMS Accession No. ML20162A124. The staff presentation is summarized below.

The NRC instituted the VRG in 2017. Members of the VRG include the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR), Region II, Office of Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR), and Office of the General Counsel (OGC). The VRG has three focus areas: licensing; Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria (ITAAC); and inspection.

Licensing actions for Vogtle Units 3 and 4 include amendments, exemptions, and code alternatives. The staff has completed processing of 198 licensing actions, has five licensing actions under review, and expects to receive three future requests.

ITAAC are a part of the Vogtle 3 and 4 combined licenses (COLs) and provide reasonable assurance that, if the inspections, tests, and analyses are performed and the acceptance criteria met, the facilities have been constructed and will be operated in conformity with the COLs, the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act, and the Commission's rules and regulations.

The COL holder for Vogtle Units 3 and 4, Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC, or the licensee), must notify the NRC that prescribed inspections, tests, and analyses have been performed and that the prescribed acceptance criteria have been met; these notifications are

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referred to as ITAAC Closure Notifications (ICNs). NRC regulations further require that if the licensee has not provided, by the date 225 days before the scheduled date for initial loading of fuel, notification for all the ITAAC, then the licensee must notify the NRC that the prescribed inspections, tests, or analyses will be performed and that the prescribed inspections, tests, analyses will be met prior to operations; this notification is referred to as an Uncompleted ITAAC Notification (UIN). SNC has submitted individual UINs for each ITAAC that had not been completed prior to 225 days before scheduled fuel load. As of the date of the meeting, SNC had submitted 136 ICNs; NRC staff had verified 134 and had two ICNs under review. SNC had submitted 263 UINs that will require follow-on ICNs.

The goal of construction inspection is to verify, through key oversight functions, that the facility licensing basis is maintained from COL issuance through construction completion. Inspections are conducted to verify completion of the prioritized ITAAC as well as the development and implementation of construction and operational programs. Reactive and supplemental inspections are also used when appropriate. So far, the NRC staff has performed over 25,000 hours of direct inspection at Vogtle Unit 3.

Upon completion of construction, inspection of Vogtle Units 3 and 4 will transition to the Reactor Oversight Process (ROP). The passive design of the AP1000 resulted in an inspection procedure reassessment resulting in a unique Vogtle Units 3 and 4 ROP for an AP1000. The robust baseline inspection program, including on site resident inspectors, will incorporate AP1000 into the structure of the current fleet of plants with limited modifications to account for the differences in design. The NRC staff identified common sense adjustments to the AP1000 inspection size because of the overall simplicity of the design, emphasis on passive components, and enhancements to safety.

NRC regulations require, under Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 52 Section 99(c)(4) (10 CFR 52.99(c)(4)), that the licensee shall notify the NRC that all ITAAC are complete. The licensee shall not operate the facility until the Commission makes a finding that all acceptance criteria are met under 10 CFR 52.103(g). By Commission policy, this finding, referred to as the "52.103(g) finding," has been delegated to the staff. Approximately 3 months before the anticipated receipt of the "All ITAAC Complete" notification, the staff will send an initial memorandum to the Commission providing the status of ITAAC closure, NRC inspection activities for construction and operational programs, and licensing activities as well as any challenges to completion of the 10 CFR Part 52 process. Based on a projected November 23, 2020, initial fuel load for Vogtle Unit 3, the staff anticipates sending the initial memorandum in mid-August. When the staff receives the "All ITAAC Complete" notification from SNC, it will issue a final memorandum notifying the Commission that the staff is prepared to find that the acceptance criteria are met. This memorandum will inform the Commission that all ITAAC notification reviews and supporting inspection activities have been completed. The memorandum will also inform the Commission of updates to the status of operational program implementation, and of the staff's intent to notify the licensee and publish a *Federal Register* notice (FRN) when the 10 CFR 52.103(g) finding is made. The staff expects that the time from receipt of SNC's "All ITAAC Complete" notification until it makes its 52.103(g) finding will be no more than 17 days.

Following the discussions of the three focus areas, the NRC demonstrated how to find information on the NRC public webpage for the [VRG](#) as well as [Vogtle Units 3](#) and [Vogtle Units 4](#) information pages.

At the conclusion of the discussion, there was an opportunity for the public to provide comments and ask questions. The NRC staff answered questions received from members of the public.

Enclosures:

As stated

cc w/encls: See next page

SUMMARY OF A PUBLIC MEETING WITH SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY  
ON JUNE 18, 2020 DATED: JULY 8, 2020

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**ADAMS Accession No.: ML20190A018      \*via e-mail      NRC-001**

OFFICE	PM: NRR/VPO	LA: NRR/VPO	BC: NRR/VPO
NAME	MWebb*	RButler*	VHall*
DATE	7/8/20	7/8/20	7/6/20

**OFFICIAL RECORD COPY**

**AGENDA FOR PUBLIC MEETING  
U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC)  
Thursday, June 18, 2020  
Teleconference  
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

**PURPOSE:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will hold an open forum to discuss the NRC Vogtle Readiness Group's (VRG) activities to support Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 3 and 4 Construction.

**OPEN**

<u>Time</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Led By</u>
9:00 a.m.	Opening Remarks	NRC
9:10 a.m.	NRC Presentation on VRG Activities	NRC
9:30 a.m.	Open Forum Discussion	NRC/Public
10:30 a.m.	Adjourn	NRC

**PUBLIC MEETING**  
**U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
**Thursday, June 18, 2020**  
**Teleconference**  
**9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

**List of Attendees**

<b>Name</b>	
<b>Representing the Nuclear Regulatory Commission</b>	
Mike King	
Marissa Bailey	
Eric Bowman	
Rob Krsek	
Steve Ruffin	
Shakur Walker	
Brian Thomas	
Victor Hall	
Nicole Coover	
Bradley Davis	
Tom Hipschman	
Rebecca Richardson	
Steve Rose	
Joe Anderson	
Dan Barss	
Bob Bernardo	
Scott Burnell	
Paul Carman	
Evan Davidson	
Eric Duncan	
Jason Eargle	
Tom Fredette	
Billy Gleaves	
Jim Gaslevic	
Treyvon Griffin	
Roger Hannah	
Patrick HeherRay Hoffman	
Olivier Lareynie	
Bruce Musico	
Jennie Rankin	
Niry Simonian	
Michael Webb	
Chris Welch	

<b>Representing the Public</b>	
Georgia Power IBEX Engineering Axgio Freeman William Freebairn James Keene Rosa Liou Theodore Nichol Adrian Tickle J Weathersby Jeff Wilson Molly Two "Guests" Four "Wireless Guests"	

Note: All participated via teleconference.

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(Revised 4/7/2020)

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Office of the County Commissioner  
Burke County Commission  
Waynesboro, GA 30830

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Augusta-Richmond County Commission  
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