

March 24, 1998

Mr. C. K. McCoy  
Vice President  
Southern Nuclear Operating  
Company, Inc.  
Post Office Box 1295  
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SUBJECT: RELIEF REQUESTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SECOND 10-YEAR INTERVAL INSPECTION PROGRAM, RELIEF REQUEST NOS. RR-5, RR-19, RR-20, RR-21, RR-22, RR-23, AND RR-24 - VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 (TAC NOS. M98977 AND M98978)

Dear Mr. McCoy:

By letter dated May 29, 1997, Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. (SNC), submitted the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2 (Vogtle), second 10-year interval inservice inspection program with associated requests for relief from certain provisions of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (ASME Code), Section XI. By two letter dated January 29, 1998, SNC provided additional information.

The staff has completed its review of the subject relief requests. The staff concludes that for Relief Request Nos. RR-5, RR-19, RR-20, RR-21, and RR-22 the proposed alternatives provide an acceptable level of quality and safety, and therefore, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i), the proposed alternatives are authorized. For Relief Request Nos. RR-23 and RR-24, the staff concludes the proposed alternatives are authorized, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(ii) in that compliance with the specified requirements would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality and safety. As noted in the staff's Safety Evaluation (enclosed), use of Code Cases N-544, N-498-1, N-416-1, N-524, and N-509 are authorized for the current interval or until such time as the Code Cases are approved for general use by reference in Regulatory Guide 1.147. After that time, SNC may continue to use the Code Cases with the limitations, if any, listed in Regulatory Guide 1.147. The bases for this conclusion are described in the staff's Safety Evaluation. The Technical Letter Report from our contractor, Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory, is contained in an attachment to the Safety Evaluation.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:  
Herbert N. Berkow, Director  
Project Directorate II-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

1/1  
DFO1

Docket Nos. 50-424 and 50-425

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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\*See previous concurrence

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NAME	DHJaffe	L.BERRY	MYoung	H.BERKOW
DATE	3/24/98	3/23/98	03/19/98	3/24/98
COPY	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Herbert N. Berkow".

Herbert N. Berkow, Director  
Project Directorate II-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-424 and 50-425

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

Vogtle Electric Generating Plant

cc:

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