

# UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 10, 2022

LICENSEE: Southern Nuclear Operating Company

FACILITY: Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 3 and 4

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF OCTOBER 27, 2022, MEETING WITH SOUTHERN NUCLEAR

**OPERATING COMPANY** 

On October 27, 2022, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) held a virtual public meeting with representatives of Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC or the licensee). The purpose of the meeting was to have a pre-submittal discussion of two potential requests for alternatives to the inservice inspection requirements in Section XI of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code for Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP), Units 3 and 4:

- VEGP 3&4-ISI1-ALT-17, "Alternative Inspection Requirements for Steam Generator Nozzle to Reactor Coolant Pump Casing Welds"
- VEGP 3&4-ISI1-ALT-18, "Alternative for Use of Code Case N-648-2 for Inservice Inspection of the Reactor Vessel Nozzle Inside Radius Sections"

The meeting notice and agenda are available in the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) at Accession No. ML22294A121. A list of attendees is enclosed.

SNC representatives described the proposed alternatives, the bases for these requests, and a schedule for their submission and requested approval. These code alternatives are based on similar alternatives to pre-service inspection requirements that were previously approved by the NRC for VEGP, Units 3 and 4. SNC's presentation and draft code alternative submittals are available at ML22293A244.

Below is a summary of the general comments and discussions:

- Regarding VEGP 3&4-ISI1-ALT-17, SNC representatives confirmed that 100 percent of the inner one-third of the weld thickness (as well as some base material) would be examined using ultrasonic examination techniques. The NRC staff stated that because of the novel design of this weld, prior NRC approval is needed to apply these examinations.
- Regarding VEGP 3&4-ISI1-ALT-17, the NRC staff asked if the postulated flaws were analyzed for potential stress corrosion cracking and fatigue degradation mechanisms.
   SNC representatives confirmed that both of these degradation mechanisms were

analyzed, and this information is included in the attachments to the draft submittal. (Note some of the attachments contain proprietary information.)

- Regarding VEGP 3&4-ISI1-ALT-18, SNC representatives confirmed that inservice examinations will include 100 percent coverage of the inner radius nozzles using VT-1 visual inspection.
- The NRC staff asked about the draft schedule's requested approval date of February 2023. SNC representatives stated they would reconsider this requested approval date.
- The NRC staff noted that these two code alternatives are for VEGP, Units 3 and 4. Unit 3 has received NRC authorization to load fuel while Unit 4 is still under construction.

Members of the public were in attendance. There were no comments or questions from the public. The staff did not receive any Public Meeting Feedback forms.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 2, "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of ADAMS. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC website at <a href="http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html">http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html</a>.

Please direct any inquiries to me at 301-415-7270 or Cayetano.Santos@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

Cayton Sut J. Signed by Santos, Cayetano on 11/10/22

Cayetano Santos Jr., Senior Project Manager Vogtle Project Office Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 52-025 and 52-026

Enclosure: List of Attendees

cc: Listserv

## LIST OF ATTENDEES

## OCTOBER 27, 2022, MEETING WITH SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY

Name	Organization		
Cayetano (Tanny) Santos Christopher Welch Victor Hall Phil O'Bryan Stephen Cumblidge Matthew Mitchell John Honcharik Carol Nove John Tsao Cory Parker Brian Wittick Mat Burton Joseph Donoghue	NRC/Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation		
William Truss Anthony Ponko	NRC/Region II		
Nathan Chapman Keith Dorsey Corey Thomas Amy Chamberlain Eddie Grant Steve Leighty Tanner Cauthen Will Garrett	Southern Nuclear Operating Company		
Jana Bergman Daniel Lamond Matthew King Mary Miller	Members of the Public		

File 4

Summary of Public Meeting held October 27, 2022, with Southern Nuclear Operating Company DATE November 10, 2022

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MBurton, NRR/DNRL/NCSG

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NAME	CSantos	CS	RButler	RB	MMitchell MI	∕IABuford <i>AB</i>
DATE	Nov 4, 2022		Nov 9, 2022		Nov 10, 2022	Nov 10, 2022
OFFICE	NRR/VPO/VPOB		NRR/VPO/VPOB			
NAME	VHall	VH	CSantos	CS		
DATE	Nov 10, 2022		Nov 10, 2022			

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