

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

February 8, 2023

Mr. Brian H. Whitley, Director Regulatory Affairs Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. 3535 Colonnade Parkway, Bin N-226-EC Birmingham, AL 35243

SUBJECT: VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT, UNIT 3 — ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT: TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION EXCEPTIONS FOR IN-CONTAINMENT REFUELING WATER STORAGE TANK OPERABILITY PRIOR TO INITIAL CRITICALITY **(EXIGENT CIRCUMSTANCES)** (EPID L-2023-LLA-0014)

Dear Mr. Whitley:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or NRC) has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 190 to Combined License (COL) No. NPF-91 for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP), Unit 3. The amendment consists of changes to COL, Appendix A, Technical Specifications (TS) in response to your application dated January 31, 2023, titled, "Exigent License Amendment Request: Technical Specification Exceptions for In-containment Refueling Water Storage Tank Operability Prior to Initial Criticality (LAR-23-004)."

The amendment involves changes to VEGP, Unit 3, COL Appendix A, TS. Specifically, the amendment involves permanent TS changes necessary to remove operability requirements for 1) the In-containment Refueling Water Storage Tank (IRWST) in TS operating Modes 5 and 6 prior to initial criticality, and 2) various automatic and manual actuation signals that initiate the IRWST, Automatic Depressurization System Stage 4, and the Chemical and Volume Control System prior to initial criticality.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation, which includes the evaluation of the changes, is also enclosed. The Safety Evaluation also describes the exigent circumstances under which the amendment is issued and includes the final no significant hazards determination. A Notice of Issuance addressing the final no significant hazards determination and an opportunity for public hearing will be published in the *Federal Register*.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, 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 the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC website at <u>http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html</u>.

Sincerely,

Macgaan Signed by Gleaves, William on 02/08/23

William (Billy) Gleaves, Senior Project Manager Vogtle Project Office

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 52-025

Enclosures:

- 1. Amendment No. 190 to VEGP Unit 3 COL NPF-91
- 2. Safety Evaluation

cc: ListServ

B. Whitley

Vogtle Unit 3 Amendment No. 190, Tech Spec Exceptions For In?Containment Refueling Water Storage Tank Operability Prior To Initial Criticality (Exigent Circumstances) LAR 23-004 DATE February 8, 2023

DISTRIBUTION:

NAME WG DATE Feb OFFICE NRF			ADAMS Accession No.: ML23037A082; Ltr ML23037A088 * via em								
DATE Feb OFFICE NRF	RR/VPO/VPOB		NRR/DSS/SNRB	*	NRR/VPO/VPOB		NRR/DSS/STSB				
OFFICE NRF	Gleaves I	WG	RPatton	RP	VHall	VH	VCusumano	VC			
	b 6, 2023		Feb 6, 2023		Feb 6, 2023		Feb 6, 2023				
NAME MW	RR/DEX/EEOB*	•	NRR/VPO/VPOB		NRR/DSS/SCPB		R-II/DRP/RPB4				
	Vaters /	иw	CSantos	CS	BWittick	BW	SBailey	SB			
DATE Feb	b 6, 2023		Feb 6, 2023		Feb 6, 2023		Feb 6, 2023				
OFFICE	GC/GCHA GCNRP/NLO*		NRR/VPO/VPOB		NRR/VPO/VPOB						
NAME MSp	Spencer	MS	VHall	VH	WGleaves	WG					
DATE Feb	b 8, 2023		Feb 8, 2023		Feb 8, 2023						

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY