



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION II
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

August 31, 2016

Mr. Keith Taber
Vice President
Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant
7821 River Road
Waynesboro, GA 30830

**SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING
PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2 - NRC INSPECTION REPORT 05000424/2016005 AND
05000425/2016005**

Dear Mr. Taber:

On August 9, 2016, the NRC completed its mid-cycle performance review of Vogtle Electric Generating Plant Units 1 and 2. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility.

The NRC determined the performance at Vogtle Units 1 and 2 during the most recent quarter was within the Regulatory Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix because of one or more greater-than-Green Security Cornerstone inputs as described in NRC Inspection Report 05000424, 425/2016-405 dated March 16, 2016. This was different from the 4th quarter 2015 assessment. The supplemental inspection (NRC Inspection Report 05000424, 425/2016-406) was completed satisfactorily on June 23, 2016. Therefore, Vogtle Units 1 and 2 will remain in the Regulatory Response Column of ROP Action Matrix until January 1, 2017.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through June 30, 2018. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The NRC will also conduct initial reactor operator licensing examinations. The inspections listed during the second half of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle performance review. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes. This inspection plan does not include security related inspections, which will be sent via separate, non-publicly available correspondence.

In response to the accident at Fukushima, the Commission issued Order EA-12-049, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Requirements for Mitigation Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events," and Order EA-12-051, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Reliable Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation."

The NRC conducted audits of licensee efforts towards compliance with these Orders, and the information gathered will aid staff in development of the ultimate Safety Evaluation for the site. After the NRC staff receives the Final Compliance letter for the site, the Safety Evaluation will be issued. Then, the NRC staff will confirm through inspections the full implementation of the orders mentioned above by performing Temporary Instruction 191, "Inspection of the Implementation of Mitigation Strategies and Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation Orders and Emergency Preparedness Communication/Staffing/Multi-Unit Dose Assessment Plans."

In Staff Requirements Memorandum – SECY 16-0009, "Recommendations Resulting from the Integrated Prioritization and Re-Baselining of Agency Activities," the Commission approved the NRC staff recommendation to discontinue the formal mid-cycle assessment process beginning in calendar year 2017. This will be the final mid-cycle assessment letter. The staff will continue to conduct quarterly assessment meetings and communicate changes in the assessment of licensee performance in accordance with the guidance in Inspection Manual Chapter 0305, "Operating Reactor Assessment Program."

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact Shane Sandal at (404) 997-4513 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Joel T. Munday, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 05000424, 05000425
License Nos. NPF-68, NPF-81

Enclosure: Vogtle Inspection/Activity Plan
(09/01/2016 - 06/30/2018)

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The NRC conducted audits of licensee efforts towards compliance with these Orders, and the information gathered will aid staff in development of the ultimate Safety Evaluation for the site. After the NRC staff receives the Final Compliance letter for the site, the Safety Evaluation will be issued. Then, the NRC staff will confirm through inspections the full implementation of the orders mentioned above by performing Temporary Instruction 191, "Inspection of the Implementation of Mitigation Strategies and Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation Orders and Emergency Preparedness Communication/Staffing/Multi-Unit Dose Assessment Plans."

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(09/01/2016 - 06/30/2018)

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PUBLICLY AVAILABLE NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE SENSITIVE NON-SENSITIVE
ADAMS: Yes ACCESSION NUMBER: ML16244A147 SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE FORM 665 ATTACHED

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| OFFICE | RII:DRP | RII:DRP | RII:DRP | | | | |
| SIGNATURE | DLM4 | SRS5 | JTM | | | | |
| NAME | D. Mas | S. Sandal | J. Munday | | | | |
| DATE | 8/29/2016 | 8/29/2016 | 8/29/2016 | 8/ /2016 | 8/ /2016 | 8/ /2016 | 8/ /2016 |
| E-MAIL COPY? | YES NO | YES NO | YES NO | YES NO | YES NO | YES NO | YES NO |

Letter to Keith Taber from Joel Munday dated August 31, 2016

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING
PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2 - NRC INSPECTION REPORT 05000424/2016005 AND
05000425/2016005

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ROP Assessment

ROP Reports

Institute of Nuclear Power Operations

Vogle
Inspection / Activity Plan
09/01/2016 - 06/30/2018

| Unit Number | Planned Dates | | Inspection Activity | Title | No. of Staff on Site |
|-------------|---------------|------------|---|--|----------------------|
| | Start | End | | | |
| | | | CDBI - COMPONENT DESIGN BASES INSPECTION | | 7 |
| 1, 2 | 09/12/2016 | 09/16/2016 | IP 7111121 | Component Design Bases Inspection | |
| 1, 2 | 10/03/2016 | 10/07/2016 | IP 7111121 | Component Design Bases Inspection | |
| 1, 2 | 10/17/2016 | 10/21/2016 | IP 7111121 | Component Design Bases Inspection | |
| 1, 2 | 10/31/2016 | 11/04/2016 | IP 7111121 | Component Design Bases Inspection | |
| | | | RP - RP INSTRUMENTS | | 1 |
| 1, 2 | 11/14/2016 | 11/18/2016 | IP 71124.05 | Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation | |
| | | | PI&R - PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION AND RESOLUTION | | 5 |
| 1, 2 | 02/20/2017 | 02/24/2017 | IP 71152B | Problem Identification and Resolution | |
| 1, 2 | 03/06/2017 | 03/10/2017 | IP 71152B | Problem Identification and Resolution | |
| | | | ISI - UNIT 1 IN-SERVICE INSPECTION | | 1 |
| 1 | 03/20/2017 | 03/24/2017 | IP 7111108P | Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR | |
| | | | OL EXAM - INITIAL LICENSE EXAM PREP | | 3 |
| 1 | 03/20/2017 | 03/24/2017 | V23491 | VOGTLE/UNIT 1 APRIL 2017 INITIAL EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES | |
| | | | SGISI - UNIT 1 SG IN-SERVICE INSPECTION | | 1 |
| 1 | 03/27/2017 | 03/31/2017 | IP 7111108P | Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR | |
| | | | OL EXAM - INITIAL LICENSE EXAM | | 3 |
| 1 | 05/01/2017 | 05/19/2017 | V23491 | VOGTLE/UNIT 1 APRIL 2017 INITIAL EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES | |
| | | | EP - EP PROGRAM INSPECTION | | 5 |
| 1, 2 | 05/22/2017 | 05/26/2017 | IP 7111402 | Alert and Notification System Testing | |
| 1, 2 | 05/22/2017 | 05/26/2017 | IP 7111403 | Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System | |
| 1, 2 | 05/22/2017 | 05/26/2017 | IP 7111404 | Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes | |
| 1, 2 | 05/22/2017 | 05/26/2017 | IP 7111405 | Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies | |
| 1, 2 | 05/22/2017 | 05/26/2017 | IP 71151 | Performance Indicator Verification | |
| | | | TFPI - TRIENNIEL FIRE PROTECTION INSPECTION | | 5 |
| 1, 2 | 06/12/2017 | 06/16/2017 | IP 7111105T | Fire Protection [Triennial] | |
| 1, 2 | 06/26/2017 | 06/30/2017 | IP 7111105T | Fire Protection [Triennial] | |
| | | | HS - TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK PERFORMANCE | | 1 |
| 1, 2 | 07/10/2017 | 07/14/2017 | IP 7111107T | Heat Sink Performance | |
| | | | OL RQ - REQUAL INSPECTION | | 2 |
| 1, 2 | 08/21/2017 | 08/25/2017 | IP 7111111B | Licensed Operator Requalification Program | |
| | | | ISI - UNIT 2 IN-SERVICE INSPECTION | | 1 |
| 2 | 09/25/2017 | 09/29/2017 | IP 7111108P | Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR | |

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

Enclosure

Vogle
Inspection / Activity Plan
09/01/2016 - 06/30/2018

| Unit Number | Planned Dates | | Inspection Activity | Title | No. of Staff on Site |
|-------------|---------------|------------|--|---|----------------------|
| | Start | End | | | |
| | | | RP - RP PUBLIC INSPECTION | | 2 |
| 1, 2 | 09/25/2017 | 09/29/2017 | IP 71124.01 | Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls | |
| 1, 2 | 09/25/2017 | 09/29/2017 | IP 71124.08 | Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation | |
| | | | SGISI - UNIT 2 SG IN-SERVICE INSPECTION | | 1 |
| 2 | 10/02/2017 | 10/06/2017 | IP 7111108P | Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR | |
| | | | RP - RP PUBLIC INSPECTION | | 2 |
| 1, 2 | 12/11/2017 | 12/15/2017 | IP 71124.06 | Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment | |
| 1, 2 | 12/11/2017 | 12/15/2017 | IP 71124.07 | Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program | |
| 1, 2 | 12/11/2017 | 12/15/2017 | IP 71151 | Performance Indicator Verification | |
| | | | MODS - PLANT MODIFICATIONS INSPECTION | | 3 |
| 1, 2 | 01/29/2018 | 02/02/2018 | IP 7111117T | Evaluations of Changes, Tests, and Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications | |
| 1, 2 | 02/12/2018 | 02/16/2018 | IP 7111117T | Evaluations of Changes, Tests, and Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications | |
| | | | EP - EP EXERCISE | | 6 |
| 1, 2 | 05/14/2018 | 05/18/2018 | IP 7111401 | Exercise Evaluation | |
| 1, 2 | 05/14/2018 | 05/18/2018 | IP 7111404 | Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes | |
| 1, 2 | 05/14/2018 | 05/18/2018 | IP 7111408 | Exercise Evaluation – Scenario Review | |
| 1, 2 | 05/14/2018 | 05/18/2018 | IP 71151-EP02 | ERO Readiness | |

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Enclosure