



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET SW SUITE 23T85
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931**

March 4, 2003

Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.
ATTN: Mr. J. Gasser, Jr.
Vice President
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant
P. O. Box 1295
Birmingham, AL 35201-1295

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER - VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT
(REPORT 50-424/03-01 AND 50-425/03-01)

Dear Mr. Gasser:

On February 4, 2003, the NRC staff completed its end-of-cycle plant performance assessment of the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant. The end-of-cycle review for Vogtle involved the participation of all technical divisions in evaluating performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the period January 1, 2002 through December 31, 2002. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility so that you will have an opportunity to prepare for these inspections and to inform us of any planned inspections that may conflict with your plant activities.

Overall, Vogtle operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and fully met all cornerstone objectives. Plant performance for the most recent quarter, as well as for the first three quarters of the assessment cycle, was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Action Matrix, based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all PIs indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore, we plan to conduct only baseline inspections at your facility through March 31, 2004. In addition, we plan to review your implementation of the Interim Compensatory Measures required by the NRC Security Order dated February 25, 2002, and to review your activities in response to NRC Bulletin 2002-02, "Reactor Pressure Vessel (RPV) Head and Vessel Head Penetration (VHP) Nozzle Inspection Programs."

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections scheduled through March 31, 2004. The inspection plan is provided to minimize the resource impact on your staff and to allow for scheduling conflicts and personnel availability to be resolved in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last six months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the mid-cycle review meeting.

As you are aware, since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, the NRC has issued several Orders and threat advisories to enhance security capabilities and improve guard force readiness. We have conducted inspections to review your implementation of these

requirements and have monitored your actions in response to changing threat conditions. For calendar year 2003, we plan to continue these inspections, conduct portions of the security baseline inspection program, as well as perform additional inspections to evaluate your compliance with new requirements that may be ordered. Based on our final determinations in this regard, we will notify you of any inspection plan changes.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made 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).

If circumstances arise which cause us to change this inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact me at (404) 562-4540 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Brian R. Bonser, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 2
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-424, 50-425
License Nos. NPF-68, NPF-81

Enclosure: Vogtle Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/encl: (See page 3)

SNC

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cc w/encl:

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Vogle
Inspection / Activity Plan
03/01/2003 - 03/31/2004

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates		Inspection Type
				Start	End	
	OL EXAM - EXAM RETAKE		2			
1	V23221	VOGTLE/RETAKE EXAMS AT POWER FACILITIES		05/05/2003	05/09/2003	Not Applicable
	OL EP - EP INSPECTION		1			
1,2	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing		06/16/2003	06/20/2003	Baseline Inspections
1,2	IP 7111403	Emergency Response Organization Augmentation Testing		06/16/2003	06/20/2003	Baseline Inspections
1,2	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes		06/16/2003	06/20/2003	Baseline Inspections
1,2	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies		06/16/2003	06/20/2003	Baseline Inspections
1,2	IP 711151	Performance Indicator Verification		06/16/2003	06/20/2003	Baseline Inspections
	PS-SEC - SECURITY - TI/ICM		3			
1,2	IP 2515/148	Inspection of Nuclear Reactor Safeguards - Interim Compensatory Measures		06/16/2003	06/20/2003	Safety Issues
	PS-RP - RADIATION PROTECTION		3			
1,2	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		07/28/2003	08/01/2003	Baseline Inspections
1,2	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation and Protective Equipment		07/28/2003	08/01/2003	Baseline Inspections
1,2	IP 7112201	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment and Monitoring Systems		07/28/2003	08/01/2003	Baseline Inspections
1,2	IP 7112202	Radioactive Material Processing and Transportation		07/28/2003	08/01/2003	Baseline Inspections
1,2	IP 711151	Performance Indicator Verification		07/28/2003	08/01/2003	Baseline Inspections
	OL RQ - REQUAL INSPECTION		2			
1,2	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification		08/04/2003	08/08/2003	Baseline Inspections
	EB1SSDPC - SSDPC PRE-INSPECTION VISIT		2			
1,2	IP 7111121	Safety System Design and Performance Capability		09/08/2003	09/12/2003	Baseline Inspections
	2515/150 - 2515/150 REV1 UNIT 1		1			
1	IP 2515/150	Reactor Pressure Vessel Head and Vessel Head Penetration Nozzles (NRC Bulletin 2002-0		09/22/2003	09/26/2003	Safety Issues
	EB2-ISI - INSERVICE INSPECTION-U1		1			
1	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR		09/29/2003	10/03/2003	Baseline Inspections
	BR2-FP - FLOOD PROTECTION		1			
1,2	IP 7111106	Flood Protection Measures		11/03/2003	11/07/2003	Baseline Inspections
	EB1SSDPC - SAFETY SYS DESIGN & PERFORMANCE CAPABILI		5			
1,2	IP 7111121	Safety System Design and Performance Capability		11/03/2003	11/07/2003	Baseline Inspections
1,2	IP 7111121	Safety System Design and Performance Capability		11/17/2003	11/21/2003	Baseline Inspections
	PS-RP - RADIATION PROTECTION-@ENV LAB		1			
1,2	IP 7112203	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program		11/19/2003	11/21/2003	Baseline Inspections
	EB2-HS - HEAT SINK		1			
1,2	IP 7111107B	Heat Sink Performance		01/12/2004	01/16/2004	Baseline Inspections

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

Vogle
Inspection / Activity Plan
03/01/2003 - 03/31/2004

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates Start End		Inspection Type
1, 2	EB2-MR - MAINTENANCE RULE IP 7111112B	Maintenance Effectiveness	1	02/09/2004	02/13/2004	Baseline Inspections

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