



50-424/425

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 12, 2000

Mr. J. B. Beasley, Jr.
Vice President
Southern Nuclear Operating
Company, Inc.
Post Office Box 1295
Birmingham, Alabama 35201-1295

SUBJECT: VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 1 AND 2 RE: SAFETY EVALUATION OF RESPONSE TO GENERIC LETTER 96-05, "PERIODIC VERIFICATION OF DESIGN-BASIS CAPABILITY OF SAFETY-RELATED MOTOR-OPERATED VALVES" (TAC NOS. M97115 AND M97116)

Dear Mr. Beasley:

On September 18, 1996, the NRC issued Generic Letter (GL) 96-05, "Periodic Verification of Design-Basis Capability of Safety-Related Motor-Operated Valves," requesting each nuclear power plant licensee to establish a program, or to ensure the effectiveness of its current program, to verify on a periodic basis that safety-related motor-operated valves (MOVs) continue to be capable of performing their safety functions within the current licensing bases of the facility.

On November 14, 1996, Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc. (SNC), submitted a 60-day response to GL 96-05 notifying the NRC that it would implement the requested MOV periodic verification program at Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2. On March 12, 1997, SNC submitted a 180-day response to GL 96-05 providing a summary description of the MOV periodic verification program planned to be implemented at Vogtle. SNC provided an updated GL 96-05 submittal on June 3, 1998. On April 28 and October 1, 1999, you provided a response to NRC staff requests for additional information regarding the GL 96-05 program.

The NRC staff has reviewed your submittals and applicable NRC inspection reports for the MOV program at Vogtle. The staff finds that SNC has established an acceptable program to verify periodically the design-basis capability of the safety-related MOVs at Vogtle through its commitment to all three phases of the Joint Owners Group (JOG) Program on MOV Periodic Verification and the additional actions described in its submittals. As discussed in the enclosed safety evaluation (SE), we conclude that the SNC is adequately addressing the actions requested in GL 96-05. The NRC staff may conduct inspections at Vogtle to verify the implementation of the MOV periodic verification program is in accordance with SNC's commitments; this NRC SE; the NRC SE dated October 30, 1997, on the JOG Program on

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J. B. Beasley, Jr.

- 2 -

January 12, 2000

MOV Periodic Verification; and the NRC SE dated April 14, 1998, on the Westinghouse Owners Group methodology for ranking MOVs by their safety significance.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Ramin Assa, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-424 and 50-425

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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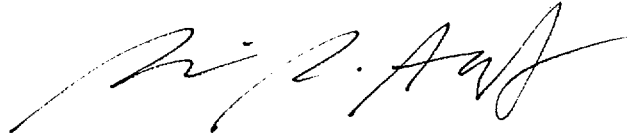
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J. B. Beasley, Jr.

- 2 -

MOV Periodic Verification; and the NRC SE dated April 14, 1998, on the Westinghouse Owners Group methodology for ranking MOVs by their safety significance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ramin Assa". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ramin Assa, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
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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