



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

September 11, 2018

Mr. Michael J. Yox
Regulatory Affairs Director
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant
Units 3 and 4
7825 River Road
Waynesboro, GA 30830

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY, VOGTLE
ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT – UNITS 3 AND 4, SECURITY PLAN
FORCE-ON-FORCE TRIENNIAL INSPECTION SCHEDULE UPDATE

Dear Mr. Yox:

Thank you for your letter dated May 25, 2018, to the Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response (NSIR) titled, "Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Vogtle Electric Generating Plant– Units 3 and 4, Security Plan Force-on-Force Triennial Inspection Schedule Update."

In your letter, you provide an update to the construction schedule previously communicated regarding Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) Units 3 and 4. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has carefully reviewed your letter and the staff understands the current VEGP schedule for expanding the protected area of Units 1 and 2 to include Units 3 and 4. As you stated, the next NRC evaluated force-on-force (FOF) inspection is scheduled for Units 1 and 2 in calendar year 2019. In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) paragraph 52.103(g), the licensee shall not operate Units 3 and 4 until the Commission makes a finding that the acceptance criteria in the combined license are met, except for those acceptance criteria that the Commission found were met under Section 52.97(a)(2). Once the Commission makes a finding that the acceptance criteria in the combined license are met, VEGP will be subject to security baseline inspections such as FOF. If the VEGP construction schedule remains as planned, the NRC understands that Unit 3 will not meet these requirements prior to 2020. Accordingly, the NRC FOF inspection for 2019 will remain as scheduled for Units 1 and 2.

The NRC staff will continue to monitor the VEGP construction schedule to determine if any adjustments in the inspection schedule are needed to ensure reasonable assurance of adequate protection to public health and safety.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Brian Holian, Director
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response

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