



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

December 18, 2018

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, UNITS 3 AND 4 — ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENTS AND GRANTING OF EXEMPTIONS RE: PASSIVE CORE COOLING SYSTEM (PXS) GUTTER DRAIN LINE VENTS (LAR 18-022) (EPID L-2018-LLA-0235)

Dear Mr. Whitley:

In response to your application dated August 27, 2018, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has granted the enclosed Exemptions and issued the enclosed Amendment Nos. 149 and 148 to Combined License (COL) Nos. NPF-91 and NPF-92 for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) Units 3 and 4, respectively. The amendments consist of changes to the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR) and plant-specific Tier 1 information, with corresponding changes to Appendix C of the Facility COLs.

The amendment requires changes to the UFSAR in the form of departures from the incorporated plant-specific Design Control Document (DCD) Tier 2 information and related changes to the VEGP Units 3 and 4 COL and COL Appendix C (and corresponding plant-specific DCD Tier 1) information. Specifically, the requested amendment revises the COL and licensing basis documents to add vent lines to the piping between the passive core cooling system (PXS) collection boxes and in-containment refueling water storage tank (IRWST) to remove entrained air and improve the drain line flow rates. The exemption allows changes that impact Tier 1 of the plant-specific DCD and Appendix C of the Facility COL, as specified in License Amendment Request (LAR) 18-022. This exemption is related to, and necessary for the granting of the license amendment, which is being issued concurrently with this exemption.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation, which includes the evaluation of the amendment is enclosed. The notice of issuance of the amendment and the documents included in this letter will be published in the *Federal Register*.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Paul Kallan, Senior Project Manager
Licensing Branch 4
Division of Licensing, Siting, and
Environmental Analysis
Office of New Reactors

Docket Nos.: 52-025
52-026

Enclosures:

1. Exemption for Amendment No. 149
for VEGP Unit 3 COL
2. Exemption for Amendment No. 148
for VEGP Unit 4 COL
3. Amendment No. 149 to VEGP Unit 3 COL
4. Amendment No. 148 to VEGP Unit 4 COL
5. Safety Evaluation

cc: See next page

VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT, UNITS 3 AND 4 — ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENTS AND GRANTING OF EXEMPTIONS RE: PASSIVE CORE COOLING SYSTEM (PXS) GUTTER DRAIN LINE VENTS (LAR 18-022) (EPID L-2018-LLA-0235) DATED DECEMBER 18, 2018

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(Revised 08/16/2018)

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