

generators. The information provided on NRC Form 542 permits the States and Compacts to know the original generators of low-level waste, as authorized by the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Policy Amendments Act of 1985, so they can ensure that waste is disposed of in the appropriate Compact.

A copy of the final supporting statement may be viewed free of charge at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW (lower level), Washington, DC. OMB clearance requests are available at the NRC worldwide web site (<http://www.nrc.gov>) under the FedWorld collection link on the home page tool bar. The document will be available on the NRC home page site for 60 days after the signature date of this notice.

Comments and questions should be directed to the OMB reviewer by April 10, 1998:

Martin Offutt, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (3150-0164, -0165, -0166), NEOB-10202, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

Comments can also be submitted by telephone at (202) 395-3084.

The NRC Clearance Officer is Brenda Jo. Shelton, 301-415-7233.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 5th day of March 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Brenda Jo. Shelton,**

*NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 98-6213 Filed 3-10-98; 8:45 am]

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 50-424 and 50-425]

**Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc., et al. (Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2); Exemption**

### I

Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc., et al. (the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-68 and NPF-81, for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP), Units 1 and 2, respectively. The licenses provide, among other things, that the licensee is subject to all rules, regulations, and orders of the Commission now or hereafter in effect.

The VEGP facility consists of two pressurized-water reactors located at the licensee's site in Burke County, Georgia.

### II

Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Section 50.71,

"Maintenance of records, making of reports," paragraph (e)(4) states, in part, that "Subsequent revisions [to the Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR)] must be filed annually or 6 months after each refueling outage provided that the interval between successive updates [to the FSAR] does not exceed 24 months." The VEGP, Units 1 and 2, share a common FSAR; therefore, this rule requires the licensee to update the same document within 6 months after a refueling outage for either unit. By letter dated January 23, 1998, the licensee requested an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4).

### III

Section 50.12(a) of 10 CFR, "Specific exemptions," states that:

The Commission may, upon application by any interested person, or upon its own initiative, grant exemptions from the requirements of the regulations of this part, which are (1) Authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to the public health and safety, and are consistent with the common defense and security. (2) The Commission will not consider granting an exemption unless special circumstances are present.

Section 50.12(a)(2)(ii) of 10 CFR states that special circumstances are present when "Application of the regulation in the particular circumstances would not serve the underlying purpose of the rule or is not necessary to achieve the underlying purpose of the rule. . . ." As noted in the staff's supporting Safety Evaluation, the licensee's proposed schedule for FSAR updates will ensure that the VEGP FSAR will be maintained current within 24 months of the last revision and the interval for submission of the 10 CFR 50.59 design change report will not exceed 24 months. The proposed schedule fits within the 24-month duration specified by 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4). Literal application of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4) would require the licensee to update the same document within 6 months after a refueling outage for either unit; a more burdensome requirement than intended. Accordingly, the Commission has determined that special circumstances are present as defined in 10 CFR 50.12(a)(2)(ii). The Commission has further determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12, the exemption is authorized by law, will not present an undue risk to public health and safety, and is consistent with the common defense and security. The Commission hereby grants the licensee an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4) to submit updates to the VEGP FSAR within 6 months of the VEGP Unit 2 refueling outage. The licensee will be

required to submit updates to the VEGP FSAR within 6 months after the Unit 2 refueling outage. With the current length of fuel cycles, FSAR updates would be submitted every 18 months, but not to exceed 24 months from the last submittal.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.32, the Commission has determined that the granting of this exemption will have no significant effect on the quality of the human environment (63 FR 10248).

This exemption is effective upon issuance.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 5th day of March 1998.

**Samuel J. Collins,**

*Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

[FR Doc. 98-6214 Filed 3-10-98; 8:45 am]

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste; Notice of Meeting

The Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) will hold its 95th meeting on March 23-25, 1998, Room T-2B3, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

The entire meeting will be open to public attendance.

The schedule for this meeting is as follows:

*Monday, March 23, 1998—8:30 A.M. until 6:00 P.M.*

*Tuesday, March 24, 1998—8:30 A.M. until 6:00 P.M.*

*Wednesday, March 25, 1998—8:30 A.M. until 4:00 P.M.*

*A. Meeting with Commissioner*

*McGaffigan*—The Committee will meet with the Commissioner to discuss items of mutual interest.

*B. Nuclear Waste Related Research*—The Committee will review various aspects of waste-related research underway or planned in preparation for sending a report to the Commission. Participants may include representatives of the NRC staff, the nuclear industry, and possibly individuals representing foreign programs.

*C. Decommissioning Guidance*—The Committee will review proposed guidance for implementing the recent final rule on radiological criteria for license termination. Guidance to be reviewed will include documents on: surveys, dose modeling, restricted release criteria, and ALARA (as low as is reasonably achievable) criteria.

Participation by the NRC staff and industry is anticipated.

**D. Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Regulation**—The Committee will review recent agency initiatives on risk-informed, performance-based regulation.

**E. Meeting with NRC's Director, Division of Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards**—The Committee will meet with the Director to discuss recent developments within the division such as developments at the Yucca Mountain project, rules and guidance under development, available resources, and other items of mutual interest.

**F. Preparation of ACNW Reports**—The Committee will discuss planned reports, including risk-informed, performance-based regulation, waste related research, regulatory guides dealing with decommissioning, and other topics discussed during this and previous meetings as the need arises.

**G. Committee Activities/Future Agenda**—The Committee will consider topics proposed for future consideration by the full Committee and Working Groups. The Committee will discuss ACNW-related activities of individual members.

**H. Miscellaneous**—The Committee will discuss miscellaneous matters related to the conduct of Committee activities and organizational activities and complete discussion of matters and specific issues that were not completed during previous meetings, as time and availability of information permit.

Procedures for the conduct of and participation in ACNW meetings was published in the **Federal Register** on September 2, 1997 (62 FR 46382). In accordance with these procedures, oral or written statements may be presented by members of the public, electronic recordings will be permitted only during those portions of the meeting that are open to the public, and questions may be asked only by members of the Committee, its consultants, and staff. Persons desiring to make oral statements should notify the Chief, Nuclear Waste Branch, Mr. Richard K. Major, as far in advance as practicable so that appropriate arrangements can be made to schedule the necessary time during the meeting for such statements. Use of still, motion picture, and television cameras during this meeting will be limited to selected portions of the meeting as determined by the ACNW Chairman. Information regarding the time to be set aside for taking pictures may be obtained by contacting the Chief, Nuclear Waste Branch, prior to the meeting. In view of the possibility that the schedule for

ACNW meetings may be adjusted by the Chairman as necessary to facilitate the conduct of the meeting, persons planning to attend should notify Mr. Major as to their particular needs.

Further information regarding topics to be discussed, whether the meeting has been canceled or rescheduled, the Chairman's ruling on requests for the opportunity to present oral statements and the time allotted therefor can be obtained by contacting Mr. Richard K. Major, Chief, Nuclear Waste Branch (telephone 301/415-7366), between 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. EST.

ACNW meeting notices, meeting transcripts, and letter reports are now available on FedWorld from the "NRC MAIN MENU." Direct Dial Access number to FedWorld is (800) 303-9672; the local direct dial number is 703-321-3339.

Dated: March 6, 1998.

**Andrew L. Bates,**

*Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 98-6286 Filed 3-10-98; 8:45 am]

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Biweekly Notice; Applications and Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses Involving No Significant Hazards Considerations

#### I. Background

Pursuant to Public Law 97-415, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or NRC staff) is publishing this regular biweekly notice. Public Law 97-415 revised section 189 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), to require the Commission to publish notice of any amendments issued, or proposed to be issued, under a new provision of section 189 of the Act. This provision grants the Commission the authority to issue and make immediately effective any amendment to an operating license upon a determination by the Commission that such amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, notwithstanding the pendency before the Commission of a request for a hearing on any person.

This biweekly notice includes all notices of amendments issued, or proposed to be issued from February 13, 1998, through February 27, 1998. The last biweekly notice was published on February 25, 1998 (63 FR 9589).

### Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses, Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination, and Opportunity for a Hearing

The Commission has made a proposed determination that the following amendment requests involve no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. The basis for this proposed determination for each amendment request is shown below.

The Commission is seeking public comments on this proposed determination. Any comments received within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice will be considered in making any final determination.

Normally, the Commission will not issue the amendment until the expiration of the 30-day notice period. However, should circumstances change during the notice period such that failure to act in a timely way would result, for example, in derating or shutdown of the facility, the Commission may issue the license amendment before the expiration of the 30-day notice period, provided that its final determination is that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will consider all public and State comments received before action is taken. Should the Commission take this action, it will publish in the **Federal Register** a notice of issuance and provide for opportunity for a hearing after issuance. The Commission expects that the need to take this action will occur very infrequently.

Written comments may be submitted by mail to the Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administration Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, and should cite the publication date and page number of this **Federal Register** notice. Written comments may also be delivered to Room 6D22, Two White Flint North, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Federal workdays. Copies of written comments received may be examined at the NRC Public