NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 52–0252 and 52–026; NRC–2008–0252]

Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc.; Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 3 and 4; Changes to the Building Gap Between the Nuclear Island and Adjacent Buildings

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Exemption and combined license amendment; issuance.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is granting an exemption to allow a departure from the certification information of Tier 1 of the generic design control document (DCD) and is issuing License Amendment Nos. 127 and 126 to Combined License (COL) Nos. NPF–91 and NPF–92, respectively. The COLs were issued to Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Inc., and Georgia Power Company, Oglethorpe Power Corporation, MEAG Power SPVM, LLC, MEAG Power SPVJ, LLC, MEAG Power SPVP, LLC, and the City of Dalton, Georgia (the licensee) for construction and operation of the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) Units 3 and 4, located in Burke County, Georgia.

The granting of the exemption allows the changes to Tier 1 information for in the amendment. Because the acceptability of the exemption was determined in part by the acceptability of the amendment, the exemption and amendment are being issued concurrently.

DATES: The exemption and amendment were issued on June 15, 2018.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The NRC is granting an exemption from paragraph B of section III, “Scope and Contents,” of appendix D, “Design Certification Rule for the AP1000,” to part 52 of title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), and issuing License Amendment Nos. 127 and 126 to COL Nos. NPF–91 and NPF–92, respectively, to the licensee. The exemption is required by paragraph A.4 of section VIII, “Processes for Changes and Departures,” appendix D, to 10 CFR part 52 to allow the licensee to depart from Tier 1 information. With the requested amendment, the licensee sought proposed changes to plant-specific DCD Tier 2 and Tier 2* information and related changes to plant-specific Tier 1 information, with corresponding changes to Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria (ITAAC) in COL appendix C. Specifically, the proposed changes relax the minimum gap requirement above grade between the nuclear island and the annex building/turbine building and remove the minimum gap requirement between the nuclear island and the radwaste building from the ITab and corresponding Tier 1 information.

Part of the justification for granting the exemption was provided by the review of the amendment. Because the exemption is necessary in order to issue the requested license amendment, the NRC granted the exemption and issued the amendment concurrently, rather than in sequence. This included issuing a combined safety evaluation containing the NRC staff’s review of both the exemption request and the license amendment. The exemption met all applicable regulatory criteria set forth in sections 50.12 and 52.7, and section VIII.A.4 of appendix D to 10 CFR part 52. The license amendment was found to be acceptable as well. The combined safety evaluation is available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML18120A345.

Identical exemption documents (except for referenced unit numbers and license numbers) were issued to the licensee for VEGP Units 3 and 4 (COLs NPF–91 and NPF–92). The exemption documents for VEGP Units 3 and 4 can be found in ADAMS under Accession Nos. ML18120A339 and ML18120A340, respectively. The exemption is reproduced (with the exception of abbreviated titles and additional citations) in section II of this document. The amendment documents for COLs NPF–91 and NPF–92 are available in ADAMS under Accession Nos. ML18120A341 and ML18120A343, respectively. A summary of the amendment documents is provided in section III of this document.

I. Introduction

The NRC is granting an exemption from paragraph B of section III, “Scope and Contents,” of appendix D, “Design Certification Rule for the AP1000,” to part 52 of title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), and issuing License Amendment Nos. 127 and 126 to COL Nos. NPF–91 and NPF–92, respectively, to the licensee. The exemption is required by paragraph A.4 of section VIII, “Processes for Changes and Departures,” appendix D, to 10 CFR part 52 to allow the licensee to depart from Tier 1 information. With the requested amendment, the licensee sought proposed changes to plant-specific DCD Tier 2 and Tier 2* information and related changes to plant-specific Tier 1 information, with corresponding changes to Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria (ITAAC) in COL appendix C. Specifically, the proposed changes relax the minimum gap requirement above grade between the nuclear island and the annex building/turbine building and remove the minimum gap requirement between the nuclear island and the radwaste building from the ITab and corresponding Tier 1 information.

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II. Exemption

Reproduced in this notice is the exemption document issued to VEGP Unit Nos. 3 and 4. It makes reference to the combined safety evaluation that provides the reasoning for the findings made by the NRC (and listed under Item 1) in order to grant the exemption:

1. In a letter dated February 1, 2018, the Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) requested from the Commission an exemption to allow departures from Tier 1 information in the certified DCD incorporated by reference in 10 CFR, appendix D, as part of license amendment request 18–002, “Changes to the Building Gap...
between the Nuclear Island and Adjacent Buildings.”

For the reasons set forth in section 3.2 of the NRC staff’s Safety Evaluation, which can be found in ADAMS under Accession No. ML18120A345, the Commission finds that:

A. the exemption is authorized by law;
B. the exemption presents no undue risk to public health and safety;
C. the exemption is consistent with the common defense and security;
D. special circumstances are present in that the application of the rule in this circumstance is not necessary to serve the underlying purpose of the rule;
E. the special circumstances outweigh any decrease in safety that may result from the reduction in standardization caused by the exemption; and
F. the exemption will not result in a significant decrease in the level of safety otherwise provided by the design.

2. Accordingly, the licensee is granted an exemption from the certified DCD Tier 1 information, with corresponding changes to appendix C of the Facility Combined License, as described in the licensee’s request dated February 1, 2018. This exemption is related to, and necessary for the granting of License Amendment No. 127 (Unit 3) and 126 (Unit 4), which is being issued concurrently with this exemption.

3. As explained in section 5.0 of the NRC staff’s Safety Evaluation (ADAMS Accession No. ML18120A345), this exemption meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Therefore, pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared for these amendments.

IV. Conclusion

Using the reasons set forth in the combined safety evaluation, the staff granted the exemptions and issued the amendments that the licensee requested on February 1, 2018.

The exemptions and amendments were issued on June 15, 2018, as part of a combined package to the licensee (ADAMS Accession No. ML18120A348).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 5th day of July 2018.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Jennifer L. Dixon-Herrity,
Chief, Licensing Branch 4, Division of Licensing, Siteing, and Environmental Analysis, Office of New Reactors.
[FR Doc. 2018–14746 Filed 7–10–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

Submission for OMB Review; Comments Request

AGENCY: Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act, agencies are required to publish a Notice in the Federal Register notifying the public that the agency is modifying an existing previously approved information collection for OMB review and approval and requests public review and comment on the submission. OPIC received comments in response to the sixty (60) day notice, and pursuant to those comments, made no changes. The 60 Day Notice was published in Federal Register on May 3, 2018. The purpose of this notice is to allow an additional thirty (30) days for public comments to be submitted. Comments are being solicited on the need for the information; the accuracy of OPIC’s burden estimate; the quality, practical utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize reporting the burden, including automated collected techniques and uses of other forms of technology.

DATES: Comments must be received within thirty (30) calendar days of publication of this Notice.

ADDRESSES: Mail all comments and requests for copies of the subject form to OPIC’s Agency Submitting Officer: James Bobbitt, Overseas Private Investment Corporation, 1100 New York Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20527. See SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for other information about filing.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: OPIC Agency Submitting Officer: James Bobbitt, (202) 336–8556.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: All mailed comments and requests for copies of the subject form should include form number OPIC–129 on both the envelope and in the subject line of the letter. Electronic comments and requests for copies of the subject form may be sent to James.Bobbitt@opic.gov, subject line OPIC–129.

Summary Form Under Review

Type of Request: Revision of currently approved information collection.

Title: Sponsor Disclosure Report.

Form Number: OPIC–129.

Frequency of Use: One per investor per project.

Type of Respondents: Business or other institution (except farms); individuals.

Standard Industrial Classification Codes: All.

Description of Affected Public: U.S. companies or citizens investing overseas.

Reporting Hours: 500 (1 hours per form).

Number of Responses: 500 per year.

Federal Cost: $27,455 ($54.91 × 500 × 1).

Authority for Information Collection: Sections 231, 234(a), 239(d), and 240A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended.

Abstract (Needs and Uses): The information provided in the OPIC–129 is used by OPIC as a part of the Character Risk Due Diligence/ background check procedure (similar to a commercial bank’s Know Your Customer procedure) that it performs on each party that has a significant relationship (10% or more beneficial ownership, provision of significant credit support, significant managerial relationship) to the projects that OPIC finances or insures. OPIC has a robust