

February 4, 2000

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-00-006

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by Region II staff (Atlanta, Georgia) on this date.

Facility

Georgia Power Co.
Hatch 1
Baxley, Georgia
Dockets: 50-321

Licensee Emergency Classification

Notification of Unusual Event
Alert
Site Area Emergency
General Emergency
X Not Applicable

Subject: AUGMENTED INSPECTION TEAM CONCLUDES REVIEW OF HATCH UNIT 1 REACTOR TRIP AND SUBSEQUENT TRANSIENT

On January 28, 2000, NRC Region II dispatched an Augmented Inspection Team (AIT) to review the Hatch Unit 1 reactor trip that occurred on January 26, 2000 (PNO-II-00-003 and PNO-II-00-004). The AIT completed onsite inspection activities and conducted a public exit meeting with licensee management on February 4, 2000.

The cause of High Pressure Coolant Injection (HPCI) system not immediately tripping at the high reactor water set point was not conclusively determined. The licensee conducted extensive investigation and testing of the HPCI high level trip instrumentation and circuitry. The AIT reviewed the system logic and observed many of the investigative activities. The HPCI system did trip properly on high level twice later during the recovery of the plant from the initial reactor trip.

The problems encountered in restarting the Reactor Core Isolation Cooling (RCIC) system after it tripped on high level, as designed, were attributed to two issues: water in the steam supply line to the RCIC turbine; and the method used by the operators to restart the tripped turbine. These factors resulted in the RCIC turbine reaching an overspeed trip condition. Prior to the startup of Unit 1, the licensee revised the procedures to provide better guidance to restart a tripped RCIC system.

The problem with the feedwater heater inlet isolation valve switch, which may have been due to application of the General Electric Type CR 2940 switches at Hatch, was reviewed. The licensee completed maintenance activities, including replacement of selected CR 2940 switches, and post maintenance testing.

A startup of the Unit 1 reactor was initiated at 3:30 a.m. on February 4, 2000.

This information is current as of 2:00 p.m. on February 4, 2000.

Contact: S. Cahill
(404)562-4520

1634
2/4/2000
S. Cahill