

October 27, 2000

Mr. Randall White
271 Arizona Avenue, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30307

SUBJECT: REPLY TO POSTCARD DATED OCTOBER 2, 2000, TO THE CHAIRMAN OF
THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Dear Mr. White:

By postcard dated October 2, 2000, to the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), you expressed concerns regarding Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2. You stated that the "make-shift storage facility" is untested and a hazard to southeast Georgia, and asked the NRC to order that this practice be halted. You also asked that the NRC withhold its approval of license renewal.

The "make-shift storage facility" to which you refer is the dry cask storage of spent fuel, also known as the Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI). The cask design was approved by the NRC through a public rulemaking process. The NRC found that the cask meets the requirements for providing adequate radiological protection to licensee personnel and members of the public. The licensee is required to construct and operate the ISFSI in accordance with NRC regulations, specifically Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 72. This is verified by periodic inspections conducted by the NRC.

With respect to license renewal, the application for Hatch license renewal is currently being evaluated by the NRC in accordance with the applicable requirements. The NRC will review this application in a fair, thorough, and timely manner. A report containing the staff's safety evaluation is scheduled for issuance on February 8, 2001.

Thank you for your interest in the Hatch Nuclear Plant. If you have any further questions, please contact me at 1-800-368-5642.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Leonard N. Olshan, Senior Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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