

January 30, 1989

Docket No.: 50-425

Mr. W. G. Hairston, III
Senior Vice President -
Nuclear Operations
Georgia Power Company
P.O. Box 1295
Birmingham, Alabama 35201

Dear Mr. Hairston:

SUBJECT: VOGTLE UNIT 2 - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT RE: TEMPORARY EXEMPTION
FROM 10 CFR 50.33(k)(1) (TAC 71437)

Enclosed is a copy of an "Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact" for your information. This notice relates to your request of December 13, 1988, for an exemption from the schedular requirement of 10 CFR 50.33(k)(1). In essence, the exemption would extend the date to submit the Vogtle Unit 2 decommissioning fund report until July 26, 1990.

This notice has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

JS

Jon B. Hopkins, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: See next page

DISTRIBUTION:

Docket File

Local PDR

S. Varga 14-E-4
D. Matthews 14-H-25
J. Hopkins 14-H-25
E. Jordan MNBB-3302
ACRS (10) P-315
VOGTLE PLANT FILE

NRC PDR

PDII-3 Reading

G. Lainas 14-H-3
M. Rood 14-H-25
OGC 15-B-18
B. Grimes 9-A-2
GPA/PA
J. Partlow 7-D-25

PDII-3
MRood

12/15/88

PDII-3

JHopkins:ls

12/15/88

PDII-3

DMatthews

1/26/88

*gl but hold
until we
get nearer to
acting on
Info Paper
1/13/89*

DF01

Mr. W. G. Hairston, III
Georgia Power Company

Vogtle Electric Generating Plant

cc:

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Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Executive Vice President -
Nuclear Operations
Georgia Power Company
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Birmingham, Alabama 35201

Regional Administrator, Region II
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
101 Marietta Street, N.W., Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

Mr. J. Leonard Ledbetter, Commissioner
Department of Natural Resources
270 Washington Street, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Office of the County-Commissioner
Burke County Commission
Waynesboro, Georgia 30830

Attorney General
Law Department
132 Judicial Building
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Office of Planning and Budget
Room 615B
270 Washington Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONGEORGIA POWER COMPANYOGLETHORPE POWER CORPORATIONMUNICIPAL ELECTRIC AUTHORITY OF GEORGIACITY OF DALTON, GEORGIADOCKET NO. 50-425ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OFNO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from the schedular requirement of 10 CFR 50.33(k)(1) to Georgia Power Company, Oglethorpe Power Corporation, Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia, and the City of Dalton, Georgia (the licensee) for Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Unit 2 (Vogtle 2) located at the licensee's site in Burke County, Georgia.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action:

10 CFR 50.33(k)(1) states, "Each application shall state: for an application for an operating license for a production or utilization facility, information in the form of a report, as described in 50.75 of this part, indicating how reasonable assurance will be provided that funds will be available to decommission the facility." 10 CFR 50.75 establishes requirements for indicating how reasonable assurance will be provided that funds will be available for decommissioning. By letter dated December 13, 1988, the licensee requested an exemption from the schedular requirement of 10 CFR 50.33(k)(1) for Vogtle 2. Each holder of an operating license is required to submit a decommissioning funding plan on or before July 26, 1990. The licensee

proposes to submit the decommissioning funding plan for Unit 2 at the time it submits the decommissioning funding plan for Unit 1 for which it holds an operating license, that is by July 26, 1990.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The licensee has stated that each of the plant's owners must evaluate the funding options to determine which is most appropriate for them, and then the owners collectively, or each owner separately, must effectuate their decisions by financial instrument. The funding report and certification are complex and require careful and deliberate financial planning. The proposed exemption is needed to provide the time necessary to perform this planning properly and provide an accurate and informed report.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The proposed exemption from 10 CFR 50.33(k)(1) will not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant cumulative radiation exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that the proposed exemption would result in no significant radiological environmental impact. Additionally, it does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the exemption.

Alternative to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission concluded that there are no significant environmental effects that would result from the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested exemption. This would not reduce environmental impacts, since the power would need to be replaced by power generated by another source.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action involves no use of resources not previously considered in connection with the Final Environmental Statements (construction permit and operating license) for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The NRC staff has reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption.

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For details with respect to this action, see the request for exemption dated December 13, 1988, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, N. W., Washington, D.C., and at the Burke County Public Library, 412 4th Street, Waynesboro, Georgia 30830.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 30th day of January, 1989.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION


David B. Matthews, Director
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

David B. Matthews, Director
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

CONCURRENCES

LA:PDII-3
*MRood
12/15/89

PM:PDII-3
*JHopkins:ls
12/15/89

*SEE PREVIOUS
OGC/WF
*CBatt
12/20/89

DBMatthews
1/26/89

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ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

David B. Matthews, Acting Director
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

LA:PDII-3
MRood
12/15/88

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JHopkins:ls
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D:PDII-3
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1/28/88