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Dockets Nos. 50-321
and 50-366

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Mr. J. T. Beckham, Jr.
Vice President - Nuclear Generation
Georgia Power Company
P. O. Box 4545
Atlanta, Georgia 30302

Dear Mr. Beckham:

By letters dated September 4, 1984, as supplemented by letters dated October 2, 1984, October 19, 1984, October 26, 1984, and December 20, 1984, you requested an exemption to the schedular requirements of 10 CFR 50.48(c) which would extend the deadline from January 18, 1985, to November 30, 1986, for installation of fire protection modifications in certain areas of Hatch Units 1 and 2. These exemptions pertain only to modifications for which plant shutdown is not required in order to install them.

We have completed our evaluation of the requested exemption and the interim compensatory measures that you have proposed to take until the required modifications are completed and have granted the requested schedular exemption as specified in the enclosed Exemption.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
JOHN F. STOLZ

John F. Stolz, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #4
Division of Licensing

Enclosure:
Exemption

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

January 16, 1985

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DOCKET No. 50-321 and 50-366

MEMORANDUM FOR: Docketing and Service Branch
Office of the Secretary of the Commission

FROM: Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: EDWIN I. HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT, UNITS NOS. 1 AND 2

One signed original of the *Federal Register* Notice identified below is enclosed for your transmittal to the Office of the Federal Register for publication. Additional conformed copies (6) of the Notice are enclosed for your use.

- ☐ Notice of Receipt of Application for Construction Permit(s) and Operating License(s).
- ☐ Notice of Receipt of Partial Application for Construction Permit(s) and Facility License(s): Time for Submission of Views on Antitrust Matters.
- ☐ Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License.
- ☐ Notice of Receipt of Application for Facility License(s); Notice of Availability of Applicant's Environmental Report; and Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Facility License(s) and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing.
- ☐ Notice of Availability of NRC Draft/Final Environmental Statement.
- ☐ Notice of Limited Work Authorization.
- ☐ Notice of Availability of Safety Evaluation Report.
- ☐ Notice of Issuance of Construction Permit(s).
- ☐ Notice of Issuance of Facility Operating License(s) or Amendment(s).
- ☐ Order.
- ☒ Exemption.
- ☐ Notice of Granting of Relief.
- ☐ Other: _____

Division of Licensing, ORB#4
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
As stated

OFFICE	ORB#4:DL					
SURNAME	Ringram;cf					
DATE	1/17/85					

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Hatch 1/2
Georgia Power Company

50-321/366

cc w/enclosure(s):

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of)	
)	
GEORGIA POWER COMPANY, ET AL)	Dockets Nos. 50-321
)	and 50-366
(Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant,)	
Units Nos. 1 and 2))	

EXEMPTION

I.

The Georgia Power Company (GPC or the licensee) and three other co-owners are the holders of Facility Operating Licenses Nos. DPR-57 and NPF-5 which authorize operation of the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2 (Hatch or the facilities) at steady state reactor power levels not in excess of 2436 megawatts thermal for each unit. The facilities are boiling water reactors located at the licensee's site in Appling County, Georgia. The licenses are subject to all rules and regulations of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission).

II.

Subsection (c) of 10 CFR 50.48 requires that fire protection modifications for which plant shutdown is not required (other than alternate shutdown capability) be completed nine months after the effective date of Appendix R. For the items covered by this exemption, the licensee was able to take advantage of the "tolling provision," subsection (c)(6), thereby commencing the nine-month period upon issuance of the staff Safety Evaluation dated April 18, 1984. The deadline for these modifications was therefore January 18, 1985.

In a submittal dated September 4, 1984, supplemented by letters dated October 2, 1984, October 19, 1984, October 26, 1984, and December 20, 1984, the licensee requested an exemption from the schedular requirements of 10 CFR 50.48(c) which would extend the deadline from January 18, 1985, to November 30, 1986, for installation of fire protection modifications in certain areas of Units 1 and 2 for which plant shutdown is not required in order to install the modifications. The proposed exemption is needed since the licensee has indicated that the installation of the non-outage related fire protection modifications in these areas of Units 1 and 2 cannot be completed on the schedule stated in 10 CFR 50.48(c) for the following reasons:

- (1) The magnitude of the overall fire protection enhancement program at plant Hatch is large and has a projected cost of 25 million dollars (excluding the alternate shutdown system for the control room/cable spreading room fire).
- (2) Currently, extensive redesign and modifications of safe shutdown related equipment and cables is underway in response to equipment qualification, operational safety enhancement and plant reliability improvement projects. These projects are interdependent with the fire protection program and the design for Appendix R cableway barriers must, in many cases, follow the final design of the equipment qualification project.
- (3) Design sequences of the Appendix R modifications are complex and the final bill of materials and specifications for the bidding of installation contracts cannot proceed until the design is near its

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final stages. Following design, implementation must await rerouting of cables from Appendix R or equipment qualification modifications.

The first of these reasons, the overall extent and cost of the fire protection program at Hatch, is not by itself an acceptable basis for extension of the schedule. Based on the information provided, the Hatch program is commensurate with programs at other facilities both in extent and cost. This Exemption is therefore not based on this factor. The second and third reasons, having to do with the interrelationship between non-outage-related and outage-related work and the inability to perform certain tasks before a final design has been completed, are acceptable bases on which a schedule extension can be granted.

The licensee indicated that in each area for which schedular exemptions are requested, the vulnerable systems will be protected by one of the following means: (1) a fire watch; (2) automatic fire detection and fire suppression systems; (3) complete, noncombustible fire barriers or a combination of (2) and (3).

In those locations where a fire watch will be provided, an individual will be present to detect and respond to any fire emergency. This provides reasonable assurance that a fire will be discovered in its initial stages before significant damage occurs and will be suppressed manually by either the fire watch or the plant fire brigade. Under these circumstances, fire damage will be limited, and no loss of safe shutdown capability should occur.

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In several locations, the licensee has proposed to install a complete noncombustible fire barrier to protect one shutdown division. If a fire were to occur, the existing fire detection systems or a plant operator would detect a fire and summon the fire brigade. One shutdown division would be protected by the barrier until fire extinguishment was effected. Consequently, the Commission's staff has reasonable assurance that safe shutdown could be achieved and maintained via the undamaged shutdown division.

Based on the considerations discussed above, the Commission concludes that the licensee has provided reasonable and acceptable interim post-fire safe shutdown capability or interim fire protection measures to support the exemption request.

III.


Accordingly, the Commission has determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12(a), an exemption as requested by the licensee's letter of September 4, 1984, and supplemented by letters dated October 2, 1984, October 19, 1984, October 26, 1984, and December 20, 1984, is authorized by law and will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security and is otherwise in the public interest. The Commission hereby grants an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.48(c) to extend the deadline for completion of fire protection modifications not requiring plant shutdown at the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2, until November 30, 1986, for each Unit.

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Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.32, the Commission has determined that the issuance of the exemption will have no significant impact on the environment (50 FR 2113).

This Exemption is effective upon issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Edson G. Case", is written over the printed name.

Edson G. Case, Acting Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland
this 16th day of January 1985.