

December 7, 1984

DMB 016

Docket No. 50-321

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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:

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.119, the Commission has requested the Office of the Federal Register to publish the enclosed "Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact Regarding Proposed Amendment to Facility Operating License". This finding relates to your application for amendment dated February 6, 1984, as amended September 6, 1984, which would revise the Technical Specifications for the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, Unit No. 1, to implement the Average Power Range Monitor/Rod Block Monitor Technical Specification Improvement Program.

Sincerely,

**\*ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
JOHN F. STOLZ\***

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

Enclosure:  
Environmental Assessment  
and Finding of No  
Significant Impact

cc w/enclosure:  
See next page

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

December 7, 1984

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DOCKET No. 50-321

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, UNIT 1

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: Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact.

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

Enclosure:  
As stated

OFFICE	ORB#4:DL						
SURNAME	RIngram:cf						
DATE	12/17/84						

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Hatch 1/2  
Georgia Power Company

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cc w/enclosure(s):

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
REGARDING PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

GEORGIA POWER COMPANY  
OGLETHORPE POWER CORPORATION  
MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC AUTHORITY OF GEORGIA  
CITY OF DALTON, GEORGIA

DOCKET NO. 50-321

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering the issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-57 issued to Georgia Power Company, Oglethorpe Power Corporation, Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia, and the City of Dalton, Georgia (the licensees) for operation of the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, Unit No. 1 (the facility) located in Appling County, Georgia.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action: The proposed action would permit the licensees to implement changes (called the Average Power Range Monitor/Rod Block Monitor/Technical Specification (ARTS) Improvement Program) to Hatch Plant, Units 1 and 2, and Technical Specifications as described in their letter of February 6, 1984, as supplemented September 6, 1984. The following assessment applies to Unit 1.

The Need for the Proposed Action: The need for the proposed action is to:

- (i) reduce the need for manual setpoint adjustments and allow for more direct thermal limit administration;
- (ii) improve the quality of electronic hardware in the Rod Block Monitor; and
- (iii) change certain operating limits to bring about consistency among the various changes being implemented.

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Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action: The proposed action improves the accuracy of indications provided to the operator for control of thermal parameters in the reactor. The net power level is unchanged. The response of the reactor protection system under accident conditions is unchanged. Thus, post-accident radiological releases will not be greater than previously determined, nor does the proposed change otherwise affect radiological plant effluents. Occupational exposures to radiation would also be unaffected. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with this proposed amendment.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed change involves systems located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR 20. No nonradiological effluents are affected, and no other environmental impact would occur. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed change.

Since we have concluded that there is no measurable environmental impact associated with the proposed changes to the TSs, any alternatives to these changes will have either no environmental impact or greater environmental impact.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested amendment. This would not reduce environmental impacts of plant operation.

Alternative Use of Resources: This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in connection with the Final Environmental Statement related to Hatch Unit 1 operation (Final Environmental Statement dated October 25, 1972).

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Agencies and Persons Consulted: The Commission's staff reviewed the licensees' request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

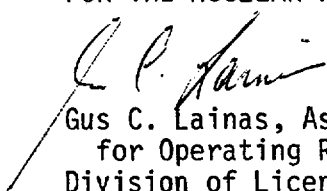
The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed license amendment.

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

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated February 6, 1984, as supplemented September 6, 1984, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and at the Appling County Public Library, 301 City Hall Drive, Baxley, Georgia.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 7th day of December 1984.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

  
Gus C. Lainas, Assistant Director  
for Operating Reactors  
Division of Licensing