

Hardage, David

From: Morris, Eddie
Sent: Monday, July 02, 2012 2:29 PM
To: Hardage, David
Subject: FW: update on Hatch UHS river level and temperature limits

FYI

Eddie D. Morris
NRC Senior Resident Inspector - Hatch
912-367-9881

—Original Message—

From: Boyle, Patrick
Sent: Monday, July 02, 2012 2:05 PM
To: Salgado, Nancy
Cc: Martin, Robert; Morris, Eddie
Subject: update on Hatch UHS river level and temperature limits

Nancy,

This is a Potential heads up ONLY at this time.

Hatch reduced power over the weekend because of increasing river temperatures, but not in response to a required TS action. Hatch has UHS TS limits on pump flows and river level, but not on temperature.

However, they also have a river temperature limit in their FSAR for the ECCS room coolers and possibly Torus cooling. This was recently changed from 95F to 97F using 50.59, since the temperature limit for operability of the room coolers is in the FSAR. They do not know how much additional margin they have based on river temperature for this equipment since they have not asked GE to perform that calculation. If they were to ask, it would require a change in methodology, which would kick them out of 50.59 and put them into a 50.90 licensing basis change requiring prior NRC approval.

The control room operators have indicated once they reach the 97F river temperature they would enter the required TS action statements (most likely 3.5.1 Condition F, immediate entry into 3.0.3) and begin a dual unit shutdown.

I have not been approached by SNC on this subject yet, but my SRI gave me a call as a potential concern area. I am not sure exactly what we would be looking at from the regulatory perspective as the value is in the FSAR versus the TS and SNC does not have any justification to exceed the 97F at this time (i.e. no calculations to demonstrate margin to the operable limits for the affected equipment).

They have several days of relief in the river temperature because of the recent rains. The extended forecast shows highs in the nineties, so the river temperatures will rebound.

Patrick