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Olie S. Bradham
Vice President
Nuclear Operations

October 6, 1989

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

Subject: Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station
Docket No. 50/395
Operating License No. NPF-12
Special Report (SPR 89-003)

Dear Mr. Ebnetter:

This Special Report is being submitted pursuant to the requirements of Technical Specification 3.3.3.7, "Fire Detection Instrumentation."

On June 29, 1989, Virgil C. Summer Nuclear Station (VCSNS) submitted Special Report 89-07 detailing the spurious alarm of smoke detectors in zone PPP of the Reactor Building. The smoke detector alarms could not be reset from outside the building and since the unit was at 100% power, entry into the Reactor Building to clear the alarm was not feasible. On August 30, 1989, plant conditions permitted containment entry and VCSNS personnel were able to restore the detectors to full operability.

On September 4, 1989, the same detectors in zone PPP again spuriously alarmed and failed to remain clear when attempts were made to reset them from outside the building. On September 8, 1989, the unit was down for repair and workers were able to enter the Reactor Building to work on the detectors. The damaged base assembly of a detector in the middle of the zone's string was replaced, but voltage and resistance measurements indicate that problems still exist both upstream and downstream of the device. The outage duration was insufficient to restore the fire detection instrumentation to full operability.

SCE&G is taking the hourly reactor building temperature readings as required by the Action Statement of Technical Specification 3.3.3.7 and has initiated a work request to repair the detectors during the next outage of sufficient duration.

Should you have any questions, please call at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

O. S. Bradham

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