

July 14, 1980

W. A. Widner  
Vice President and General Manager  
Nuclear Generation



United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
Washington, D. C. 20555

NRC DOCKETS 50-321, 50-366  
OPERATING LICENSES DPR-57, NPF-5  
EDWIN I. HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1, 2  
REPLY TO NOTICE OF PROPOSED IMPOSITION OF A CIVIL PENALTY

ATTENTION: Mr. Victor Stello, Jr.

Gentlemen:

Georgia Power Company hereby responds to the NRC's Notice of Proposed Imposition of a Civil Penalty dated June 19, 1980. The proposed penalty is due to an alleged violation of NRC regulations governing radiation exposure level in the cab of a vehicle transporting radioactive wastes from Plant Hatch to a licensed burial site. Georgia Power Company has conducted an investigation into the incident and survey practices at Plant Hatch. Based on our findings, we disclaim the severity of the violation and request remission or mitigation of the civil penalty.

The Georgia Power Company survey of the vehicle was conducted with survey instruments and techniques which are representative of standard industry practice. All information available to us at the time the truck departed the Plant Hatch site indicated that the dose rate inside the cab was within the 49 CFR 173.393 limit of 2 mrem/hr for normally occupied positions.

The reported deviation from the regulatory standard is small and did not result in excessive radiation exposure to the driver. The imposition of a \$4,000 civil penalty is excessive in relation to civil penalties previously imposed by the NRC vis-a-vis the severity of the event. Since the violation was not a result of intentional or negligent wrongdoing on our part, we feel that a remission of the fine is in order.

As stated in our response to the Notice of Violation, Georgia Power Company intends to maintain the highest attainable standards of operation and compliance with laws and regulations. We feel we have promptly taken steps to prevent a recurrence of conditions which led to the violation.


If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact this office.

Very truly yours,

W. A. Widner

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Georgia Power 

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xc: Ruble A. Thomas  
George F. Trowbridge, Esquire  
R. F. Rogers, III