

MAY 1 1981

Docket Nos.: ~~50-424~~  
and 50-425

Mr. W. E. Ehrensperger  
Senior Vice President  
Power Supply  
Georgia Power Company  
P. O. Box 4525  
Atlanta, Georgia 30302

DIST.

~~50-424-513~~  
DEisenhut  
BJYoungblood  
SBurwell  
MRushbrook  
RTedesco  
RVollmer  
TMurley  
RMattson  
RHartfield, MPA  
Acting AD/M&OE  
OELD  
OIE (3)  
GLear  
OThompson

bcc:  
TERA  
NRC/PDR  
L/PDR  
NSIC  
TIC  
ACRS (16)

Dear Mr. Ehrensperger:

Subject: Request for Change in Backfill Compaction Criteria

The Georgia Power Company (GPC) requested NRR review and approval of a change in backfill criteria for the Vogtle Plant, as described in a letter from G. Head, GPC, to D. Eisenhut, NRR, dated March 25, 1981.

The PSAR states that all select sand backfill adjacent to and beneath Category I structures is to be compacted to 97% of the maximum density determined by ASTM method D-1557. The backfill material is required, by specifications, to be sand and silty sand containing less than 25% fines.

The above letter reported that the backfill material used so far has had fines contents in the low end of the allowable range and that this material has been compacted to the specified 97%. Because of shortage of this most suitable material, GPC wishes to now use backfill material with fines contents in the higher end of the allowable range; however, the specified 97% compaction is difficult to obtain with this material without a greater incidence of reworking. Thus GPC wishes to reduce the compaction requirement to 95% for backfill soil having the relatively higher fines content, and to use this material only north of the turbine building and above foundation level.

We have reviewed the above letter and we concur in the position that the proposed change in the compaction requirements in the designated area north of the turbine building will not affect the seismic Category I structures and therefore find the described change in compaction requirement to be acceptable.

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Mr. W. E. Ehrensperger

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This review has been made by Dr. Owen O. Thompson, Geotechnical Engineer, Hydrologic and Geotechnical Engineering Branch, Division of Engineering, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

Sincerely,

*/s/ B. J. Youngblood*

*for* Robert L. Tedesco, Assistant Director  
for Licensing  
Division of Licensing

cc: See next page

*GL 4/24/81*

OFFICE > DL:LB#1	DL:LB#1	DL:AO/L
SUBNAME > SBurwell/ys	BJYoungblood	RLTedesco
DATE > 4/28/81	4/28/81	4/28/81

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