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March 23, 1990

the southern electric system

W. G. Hairston, III
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Operations

ELV-01458
0304

Docket No. 50-424

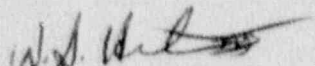
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D. C. 20555

Gentlemen:

VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT
LICENSEE EVENT REPORT
FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION 3.0.4
OCCURS ON ENTRY INTO MODE 6

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.73, Georgia Power Company hereby submits the enclosed report related to an event which occurred on March 1, 1990.

Sincerely,


W. G. Hairston, III

WGH, III/NJS/gm

Enclosure: LER 50-424/1990-04

xc: Georgia Power Company
Mr. C. K. McCoy
Mr. G. Bockhold, Jr.
Mr. R. M. Odom
Mr. P. D. Rushton
NORMS

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mr. S. D. Ebnetter, Regional Administrator
Mr. T. A. Reed, Licensing Project Manager, NRR
Mr. R. F. Aiello, Senior Resident Inspector, Vogtle

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LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

FACILITY NAME (1) VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT - UNIT 1	DOCKET NUMBER (2) 0 5 0 0 0 4 2 4	PAGE (3) 1 OF 0 8
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TITLE (4)
FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION 3.0.4 OCCURS ON ENTRY INTO MODE 6

EVENT DATE (5)			LER NUMBER (6)			REPORT DATE (7)			OTHER FACILITIES INVOLVED (8)																																											
MONTH	DAY	YEAR	YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER	MONTH	DAY	YEAR	FACILITY NAMES																																											
03	01	90	90	004	00	03	23	90	0 5 0 0 0																																											
<table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:15%;">OPERATING MODE (9)</td> <td style="width:15%;">6</td> <td colspan="10">THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR § (Check one or more of the following) (11)</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="5">POWER LEVEL (10)</td> <td>0</td> <td>20.405(b)</td> <td>20.405(c)</td> <td>50.73(a)(2)(iv)</td> <td>73.71(b)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>20.405(a)(1)(i)</td> <td>50.36(c)(1)</td> <td>50.73(a)(2)(v)</td> <td>73.71(c)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>20.405(a)(1)(ii)</td> <td>50.36(c)(2)</td> <td>50.73(a)(2)(vii)</td> <td rowspan="3">OTHER (Specify in Abstract below and in Text, NRC Form 366A)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>20.405(a)(1)(iii)</td> <td>X 50.73(a)(2)(ii)</td> <td>50.73(a)(2)(viii)(A)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>20.405(a)(1)(iv)</td> <td>50.73(a)(2)(iii)</td> <td>50.73(a)(2)(viii)(B)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>20.405(a)(1)(v)</td> <td>50.73(a)(2)(iii)</td> <td>50.73(a)(2)(ix)</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>												OPERATING MODE (9)	6	THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR § (Check one or more of the following) (11)										POWER LEVEL (10)	0	20.405(b)	20.405(c)	50.73(a)(2)(iv)	73.71(b)		20.405(a)(1)(i)	50.36(c)(1)	50.73(a)(2)(v)	73.71(c)		20.405(a)(1)(ii)	50.36(c)(2)	50.73(a)(2)(vii)	OTHER (Specify in Abstract below and in Text, NRC Form 366A)		20.405(a)(1)(iii)	X 50.73(a)(2)(ii)	50.73(a)(2)(viii)(A)		20.405(a)(1)(iv)	50.73(a)(2)(iii)	50.73(a)(2)(viii)(B)		20.405(a)(1)(v)	50.73(a)(2)(iii)	50.73(a)(2)(ix)	
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LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER (12)

NAME	TELEPHONE NUMBER
R.M. ODOM, NUCLEAR SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE	4 0 4 8 2 6 - 3 2 0 1

COMPLETE ONE LINE FOR EACH COMPONENT FAILURE DESCRIBED IN THIS REPORT (13)

CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO NRPDS	CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFACTURER	REPORTABLE TO NRPDS

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT EXPECTED (14)

YES (If yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE)

NO

EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE (15)	MONTH	DAY	YEAR

ABSTRACT (Limit to 1400 spaces, i.e., approximately fifteen single-space typewritten lines) (16)

On 3-1-90, at 0133 CST, a failure to comply with Technical Specification (TS) 3.0.4 occurred when Unit 1 entered Mode 6 (Refueling) from Mode 5 (Cold Shutdown). Prior to entering Mode 6, a Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) had been initiated for Source Range Channel IN31 to allow performance of an 18 month channel calibration. Although this LCO remained in effect, the Shift Superintendent signed off on the applicable procedure to indicate he had reviewed the LCO Book for impact on entering Mode 6 and that approval was granted to change status from Mode 5 to Mode 6. After entry into Mode 6, the Shift Superintendent recognized that TS 3.9.2 requires two Source Range Monitors to be operable in Mode 6 and that a failure to comply with TS 3.0.4 had occurred. No immediate action was required since the action requirements of TS 3.9.2 were satisfied.

The root cause for this event is considered to be cognitive personnel error by the Shift Superintendent. The Shift Superintendent has been counseled and a copy of this LER will be placed in the Operations Required Reading Book.

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER) TEXT CONTINUATION

FACILITY NAME (1) VEGP - UNIT 1	DOCKET NUMBER (2) 0 5 0 0 0 4 2 4	LER NUMBER (6)			PAGE (3)		
		YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER			
		9 0	- 0 0 4	- 0 0	0 2	OF	0 3

TEXT (If more space is required, use additional NRC Form 366A's) (17)

A. REQUIREMENT FOR REPORT

This report is required per 10 CFR 50.73(a)(2)(i) because of a failure to comply with Technical Specification (TS) 3.0.4.

B. UNIT STATUS AT TIME OF EVENT

Unit 1 had begun its second refueling outage. This event occurred when Unit 1 entered Mode 6 (Refueling) from Mode 5 (Cold Shutdown). Reactor coolant temperature and pressure were approximately 110 degrees Fahrenheit and 0 psig respectively. Additionally, the Reactor Coolant System was drained to midloop and nozzle dams had been installed.

C. DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

On 2-28-90, a Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) was entered to allow performance of an 18 month surveillance in accordance with procedure 24695-1, "Nuclear Instrumentation System (NIS) Source Range Channel 1N31 Channel Calibration". Entry of the LCO for Source Range Channel 1N31 was appropriately recorded in the LCO Book and in the Unit 1 Shift Supervisor Log.

On 3-1-90, procedure 12007-C, "Refueling Entry (Mode 5 to Mode 6)," was being performed in preparation for entry into Mode 6. Items (4) and (5) of step 4.3.1.c were completed by the Shift Superintendent and initialed off. Step 4.3.1.c reads: "REVIEW the following for impact on entering Mode 6: (1) Jumper and Lifted Wire Log, (2) Temporary Modification Log, (3) Equipment Clearance Log, (4) LCO Book, (5) Outstanding Work Orders." At 0014 CST, the Shift Superintendent signed off on procedure 12007-C to indicate approval to change status from Mode 5 to Mode 6. At 0133 CST, Mode 6 was entered when Reactor Vessel Head stud detensioning commenced.

Several hours later, the Shift Superintendent was briefing the Operations Manager on plant status and it was recognized that a failure to comply with TS 3.0.4 had occurred on the entry into Mode 6. At the time of the mode change, the LCO for Source Range Channel 1N31 was still in effect and the channel was still in "test" for performance of surveillance procedure 24695-1. Technical Specification 3.9.2 requires two Source Range Neutron Flux Monitors to be operable in Mode 6. Therefore, the requirements of TS 3.0.4, which state in part "Entry into an OPERATIONAL MODE or other specified condition shall not be made unless the conditions for the Limiting Condition for Operation are met without reliance on provisions contained in the ACTION requirements," had not been fully met. The action requirements of TS 3.9.2 state that with one Source Range Neutron Flux Monitor inoperable or not operating, to immediately suspend all operations involving core alterations or positive reactivity changes. These action requirements were met and no immediate corrective action was required.

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER) TEXT CONTINUATION

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		YEAR	SEQUENTIAL NUMBER	REVISION NUMBER		
		9 0	0 0 1 4	0 0	0 3	OF 0 3

TEXT (If more space is required, use additional NRC Form 366A's) (17)

D. CAUSE OF EVENT

The root cause for this event is considered to be cognitive personnel error on the part of the Shift Superintendent. In reviewing the LCO Book and signing off on procedure 12007-C, the Shift Superintendent should have recognized the LCO for Source Range Channel 1N31 as being a mode change restraint. There were no unusual characteristics of the work location that contributed to the occurrence of this event.

E. ANALYSIS OF EVENT

The action requirements of TS 3.9.2 state that with one Source Range Neutron Flux Monitor inoperable or not operating, to immediately suspend all operations involving core alterations or positive reactivity changes. These action requirements were complied with. By 1120 CST on 3-1-90, surveillance procedure 24695-1 had been completed and the LCO for Source Range Channel 1N31 was exited at that time. Since the action requirements of TS 3.9.2 were complied with, there was no adverse effect on plant safety or on the health and safety of the public.

F. CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

1. The involved Shift Superintendent has been counseled regarding his failure to recognize the LCO for Source Range Channel 1N31 as a mode change restraint.
2. A copy of this LER will be placed in the Operations Required Reading Book to reemphasize the need to be aware of mode change restraints.

G. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. Failed Component Identification

None.

2. Previous Similar Events

A failure to fully comply with TS 3.0.4 previously occurred for Unit 1 on 10-28-87 (reference LER 424/87-061), when the Unit changed status from Mode 4 (Hot Shutdown) to Mode 3 (Hot Standby) with certain required equipment having not been verified as operable prior to completing the mode change. However, the root causes for these two events differ slightly in that the earlier event resulted from a failure to implement "Information Only LCO's".

3. Energy Industry Identification System Codes

Incore/Excore Monitoring System - IG