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Docket Nos. 50-321, 50-366
License Nos. DPR-57, NPF-5

Georgia Power Company
ATTN: Mr. W. G. Hairston, III
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Operations
P. O. Box 1295
Birmingham, AL 35201

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: REQUALIFICATION PROGRAM EVALUATION - E. I. HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT
EXAMINATION REPORT NO. 50-321/93-301

In a telephone conversation between, Mr. Steven Grantham, Operations Training, Superintendent and Mr. Jonathan Bartley, License Examiner, arranged to evaluate the requalification program and licensed personnel at the Hatch Nuclear Plant. The evaluation is scheduled for the weeks of September 27-October 1 and October 4-8, 1993. NRC examiners and evaluators from your facility will conduct requalification examinations, and the NRC will evaluate the facility licensee's requalification program in accordance with Sections ES-601 through ES-604 of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examiner Standards," Revision 7. You are encouraged to ensure that your training staff and proposed examinees are familiar with these standards.

For the NRC to adequately prepare for this evaluation, the facility licensee will need to furnish the NRC the approved items listed in Enclosure 1, "Reference Material Requirements." You are also requested to submit, at your option, a proposed examination for use during the examination week. However, if you do submit a proposed examination, the personnel participating in its development may become subject to the security restrictions described in this letter.

Please review the guidance promulgated in Revision 7 to NUREG-1021 on the content and scope of simulator examination scenarios. The scenario examination bank should cover the entire spectrum of emergency operating procedures (EOPs), including alternative decision paths within the EOPs, and it should incorporate a range of failures with various degrees of severity for the same type of event. Each scenario should contain simultaneous events that require the senior reactor operator (SRO) to prioritize their actions and to assign other crew members particular tasks. Each scenario should also require the SRO to decide when to transition between EOPs and decide which actions to take within EOPs.

You are requested to designate at least one employee to be a member of a joint NRC-facility examination team. The employee is expected to be an active senior reactor operator (SRO) as defined by 10 CFR 55.53(e) or (f) from the Hatch Nuclear Plant Operations Department. You are encouraged to designate a second employee from the training staff to be a member of the examination

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team. This employee should also be a licensed SRO, but may be a certified instructor. If desired and agreed to by the chief examiner, you may designate one additional employee from the training staff with appropriate qualifications to be a member of the examination team. In addition to these individuals, you will need to designate a simulator operator for scenario preview and validation during the on-site examination preparation week. In some cases, you may need to designate a simulator operator during the test item review period. All these individuals will be subject to the examination security agreement.

The NRC restricts any facility licensee representatives under the security agreement from knowingly communicating by any means the content or scope of the examination to unauthorized persons and from participating in any facility licensee programs such as instruction, examination, or tutoring in which an identified requalification examinee will be present. These restrictions apply from the day that the facility licensee representative signs the examination security agreement indicating that the representative understands that he or she has specialized knowledge of the examination. The chief examiner will determine when a facility licensee representative has received specialized knowledge concerning the examination and will execute an examination security agreement. In most cases, the examination team members will not be required to enter into an examination security agreement more than 60 days before the examination week. The simulator operator will normally become subject to the security restrictions during the examination preparation and validation week, however. This may occur as much as 45 days before the examination week.

Sixty days before the examination administration date, please provide the NRC regional office with a list of proposed licensees, including crew composition, for the examination. Also, to ensure privacy, the only copy of the current mailing address and Part 55 docket number of each operator should be mailed in an envelope labeled "To Be Opened By Addressee Only" to the attention of Mr. Thomas A. Peebles, Chief, Operations Branch, Division of Reactor Safety, Region II.

The facility licensee may request that the NRC chief examiner or another NRC representative meet with the licensees to be examined and the licensee managers during the examination preparation week, normally two weeks before the examination. However, if the schedule does not allow them to meet during the preparation week, they may meet at any mutually agreeable time. The NRC examiner will explain the examination and grading processes and will respond to any questions that the licensees may have about the NRC's examination procedures. The facility licensee training staff should schedule this meeting, if it is desired, with the NRC chief examiner.

The facility licensee is requested to distribute the "Requalification Examination Feedback Form," attached as Enclosure 3. The NRC requests that this feedback be completed by all operators, evaluators, and facility licensee representatives participating in the NRC requalification examination, including facility licensee managers. The results from this survey will be used to measure the success of the NRC and facility licensee's efforts to reduce undue stress during the requalification examination.

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The facility licensee staff is responsible for providing adequate space and accommodations to properly develop and conduct the examinations. Enclosure 2, "Administration of Requalification Examinations," describes our requirements for developing and conducting the examinations. Also, a facility operations management representative above a shift supervisor level should observe the simulator examination process at the site.

The request for requalification examination material is covered by Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Clearance Number 3150-0101, which expires October 31, 1995. The estimated average burden is 7.7 hours per response, including gathering, xeroxing, and mailing the required material. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Information and Records Management Branch, MNBB-7714, Division of Information Support Services, Office of Information Resources Management, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. 20555; and to the Paperwork Reduction Project (3150-0101), Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-3019, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D. C. 20503.

The request for responses to the Requalification Examination Feedback Form is covered by Office of Management and Budget Clearance Number 3150-0159, which expires February 28, 1996. The estimated average burden is 30 minutes per response, including copying and mailing the completed responses. Send comments about this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Records and Reports Management Branch, MNBB-7714, Division of Information Support Services, Office of Information Resources Management, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. 20555; and to the Paperwork Reduction Project (3150-0159), Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-3019, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D. C. 20503.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Steven Grantham has been advised of the NRC guidelines and policies addressed in this letter. If you have any questions on the evaluation process, please contact Mr. Lawrence L. Lawyer, Chief, Operator Licensing Section 1, at (404) 331-4700.

Sincerely,

(Original signed by L. L. Lawyer, for)

Thomas A. Peebles, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosures:

1. Reference Material Guidelines
2. Administration of Requalification Examinations
3. Requalification Examination Feedback Form

cc w/encls: (See page 4)

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