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Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant



Georgia Power

the southern electric system

January 30, 1979  
PM 79-109

PLANT E. I. HATCH  
Unit 1 Scram of 1/24/79

Mr. James P. O'Reilly  
United States Regulatory Commission  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
Region II  
Suite 3100  
101 Marietta Street  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

30-321 S.

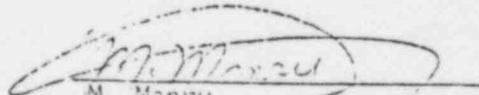
Dear Sir:

Per the telephone conversation this A.M. between Mr. Hugh Dance, Mr. Harvey Nix and myself, this letter gives the events leading to the Hatch Unit 1 scram of 1/24/79.

On 1/23/79 during operation and on 1/24/79 during a shutdown, high pressures of 200 to 300 psig were observed to exist in the Hatch Unit 1 RHR heat exchangers A and B. The Heat exchangers were vented to the torus via the heat exchanger vent valves. This was successful for B, but it was necessary on both days to vent A via torus spray valve E11-F024A. On the 24th, the water being vented from exchanger A flashed to steam in the torus. As a result of this the torus pressure rose and caused the Torus to Drywell vacuum breakers to function which culminated in a reactor scram due to the rise in drywell pressure.

Investigation indicated that the pressure rise in the heat exchangers was probably due to a slow leak past the E11-F015A valve. Thus, the valve internals were removed, repaired (valve seat was lapped) and replaced.

We are in the process of leak rate testing the E11-F015A valve by pressurizing between the inboard manual isolation valve (E11-F060A) and the E11-F015A valve. We also plan to visually inspect the torus spray header, the spray header piping, and its hangers for any possible damage before making a determination on proceeding with plant startup.

  
M. Manry  
Plant Manager

TLE/bm

xc: Harvey Nix  
Stan Baxley  
Richard Nix

Tom Greene  
File M-58 & E-11

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