

LER #: 50-321/1982-064
Licensee: Georgia Power Company
Facility Name: Edwin I. Hatch
Docket No.: 50-321

Narrative Report
for LER 50-321/1982-064

On the 18th of July 1982, with Unit One at hot standby, the Reactor Water Clean Up System (RWCU) primary containment outboard isolation valve was opened in violation of an outstanding limiting condition of operation (LCO). This LCO (note DR 1-82-132) is based on Technical Specification 3.7.D.2 which states, that, in the event of any isolation valve specified in Table 3.7-1 (which includes the RWCU isolation valves) becomes inoperable, reactor power operation may continue providing at least one isolation valve in every line having an inoperable valve is in the mode corresponding to the isolated condition. Since the RWCU inboard primary containment isolation valve was open and inoperable and the conditions for the LCO were not being met, this event is contrary to Technical Specification 3.7.A.2.c. Tech Spec 3.7.A.2.c requires all automatic containment isolation valves to be operable or deactivated in the isolated position whenever reactor water temperature is above 212°F and the fuel is in the reactor vessel. Note that the RWCU primary containment outboard isolation valve was still available for automatic or remote manual operation if the need had arisen. Plant operation was not affected as a result of this event. The health and safety of the public was not affected. This event was non-repetitive.

The cause of this event was personnel error. An outstanding LCO was not cleared before opening the outboard isolation valve. Assuming the removal of the unit from power operations satisfied Technical Specification 3.7.D.2, the applicability of Tech Spec 3.7.A.2.c. was not understood.

The immediate corrective action was to close the outboard valve and isolate its motor operator electrically. Later the same day, the inboard isolation valve was repaired and tested satisfactorily thereby satisfying the LCO. Both isolation valves were returned to normal operation. The responsible personnel are now familiar with the accepted interpretation of Technical Specifications 3.7.A.2.c and 3.7.D.2.