

LER No.: 50-366/1982-079, Rev. 1
Licensee: Georgia Power Company
Facility: Edwin I. Hatch
Docket #: 50-366

Narrative Report
for LER 50-366/1982-079, Rev. 1

On July 27, 1982, with Unit 2 in run at 2400 Mwt, Diesel Generator "2C" was being run (as per the "Diesel Generator Manual Start" procedure for normal surveillance) as required by Tech. Spec. Section 4.8.1.1.2. The diesel tripped after 37 minutes of operation (see DR 2-82-186), was restarted and tripped again (see DR 2-82-193), thus failing to meet Tech. Spec. requirement 3.8.1.1.b. This spec. requires three separate independent diesel generators to be operable. The redundant diesels "2A & 2B" were proven operable and an LCO was initiated as per Tech. Spec. 3.8.1.1, action a. Public health and safety were not affected by this non-repetitive incident.

The cause of the "2C" diesel generator failure was found to be bearing failure. This engine had multiple manual starts (an estimated 120-150 fast starts) as a result of increased surveillance. The first bearing to fail was the #8 connecting rod bearing, with other bearings showing damage. During the 20-hour run-in check, one main bearing showed minor scoring. The bearing was replaced, and the entire run-in procedure was started anew.

The run-in procedure was completed satisfactorily per the vendor run-in procedure for this occurrence.

The multiple manual starts revealed that a longer pre-lube time would allow the bearings to get better lubricated before the diesel was started to help avoid bearing failures. The operating procedures were revised to incorporate a new pre-lube time as recommended by the vendor. Additionally, the remaining diesels were inspected for damage. This inspection revealed that the remaining diesels had no damage, with the exception of minor scoring of one upper main bearing on one diesel.

An administrative review of outstanding LER's found that this LER had not been submitted to the NRC within the 30 day period required by T.S.6.9.1.9.b. This LER was due to the NRC on 8/26/82; it was submitted on 8/27/82. An administrative oversight by personnel caused this situation. Responsible personnel have been counseled as to the importance of adherence to the requirements of Tech. Specs.