

APR - 8 1994

Docket Nos. 50-321 and 50-366
License Nos. DPR-57 and NPF-5
EA 94-064

Georgia Power Company
ATTN: Mr. J. T. Beckham, Jr.
Vice President, Plant Hatch
Nuclear Operations
P.O. Box 1295
Birmingham, AL 35201

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 50-321/94-09 AND 50-366/94-09

This refers to the special inspection conducted by L. Wert of this office on March 21 - March 28, 1994. The inspection included a review of a loss of shutdown cooling flow at your Hatch facility. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observation of activities in progress.

Based on the results of this inspection, two apparent violations were identified and are being considered for escalated enforcement action in accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions" (Enforcement Policy), 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C. The apparent violations concerned inadequate procedures for high decay heat conditions and inadequate corrective action for a previous loss of shutdown cooling event in April 1993. Although the operators performed well in response to the problem and no subsequent equipment failures occurred, the event is considered serious due to the increase in reactor coolant temperatures and reactor pressurization. Plant conditions approached those requiring containment without primary containment integrity being established. We are concerned about your apparent lack of sensitivity regarding shutdown cooling system vulnerabilities, particularly under high decay heat conditions. Accordingly, no Notice of Violation is presently being issued for these inspection findings. Please be advised that the number and characterization of the apparent violations described in the enclosed inspection report may change as a result of further NRC review.

An enforcement conference to discuss these apparent violations has been scheduled for April 29, 1994. The purposes of this conference are to discuss the apparent violations, the cause(s) and safety significance; to provide you the opportunity to point out any errors in our inspection report; to provide an opportunity for you to present your proposed correction action(s); and to discuss any other information that will help us determine the appropriate

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enforcement action in accordance with the Enforcement Policy. In particular, we expect you to address the failure of previous corrective action associated with the April 1993 event to preclude the event described in the apparent violation. You will be advised by separate correspondence of the results of our deliberations on this matter. No response regarding the apparent violations are required at this

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact us.

Sincerely,



Jon R. Johnson, Acting Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. NRC Inspection Report

cc w/encls:

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SEE PREVIOUS CONCURRENCE PAGE FOR SIGNATURES.

RII:DRP	RII:DRP	RII:DRP	RII:ORA	RII:EICS
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