

LER #: 50-321/1980-055, Rev. 2
Licensee: Georgia Power Company
Facility Name: Edwin I. Hatch
Docket #: 50-321

Narrative Report
for LER 50-321/1980-055, Rev. 2
Update Report - Previous Report Date 6-30-80

A snubber allows the pipe to move due to thermal expansion yet restricts sudden movement due to a seismic event. A locked up snubber would prevent thermal movement which could cause damaging stresses in the pipe. While inspecting the snubbers, the associated piping was also visually inspected. No cases of pipe damage were noted. This event posed no threat to public health or safety.

The cause of this event was found to be internal corrosion of the snubbers. On Unit 2 the failure mode is believed to be galling of the stainless steel snubber internal screw. All of these snubbers were manufactured by International Nuclear Safeguards Inc. All snubbers that were found locked up have been replaced with Pacific Scientific mechanical snubbers with the exception of three. These were replaced with rigid restraints with prior approval of the AE.

The AE is in the process of performing computer analyses and revising the Class I Stress Reports where the magnitude of thermal movements or other conditions warrant. These analyses will be performed in conjunction with ongoing activities for IE Bulletin 79-14 using "as-built" information.

A Class 2 analysis has been performed and only one potential high stress area has been noted. This was an area inboard of the RWCU inboard motor operated isolation valve and included the valve and an elbow adjacent to the valve. This was class 1, 6" schedule 80 stainless steel piping. UT examination of this area was performed and no indications were found, therefore indicating that the lock up of mechanical snubbers in this area did not result in pipe failure.