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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

August 18, 1981

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-81-67

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of an event of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is as initially received without verification or evaluation and is basically all that is known by IE staff as of this date.

FACILITY: Georgia Power Company  
Hatch Units 1 and 2  
Docket Nos. 50-321 and 50-366  
Baxley, Georgia 31513

SUBJECT: ALTAMAHA RIVER LEVEL

The prolonged drought in Georgia has affected the surface water runoff to the Altamaha and the upstream impoundments and reservoir levels. To alleviate the lower than normal river water level Georgia Power Company decided to install a temporary (sand bag) weir 1000 feet downstream of the Hatch plant intake structure and upstream of the plant discharge. The Technical Specification requires that river water level of 61.7 feet be maintained. A minimum river water level of 63 feet has been maintained. The installed weir will reduce the drawdown on the upstream impoundments and reservoirs. The licensee has received approval from the Corp of Engineers to construct the temporary water containing structure. The structure is to be removed within six months. Work on the weir is to start during the week of August 17 and last approximately two weeks.

Media interest has occurred. The licensee has issued press releases. The NRC does not plan a press release at this time. The state of Georgia has been informed.

Region II (Atlanta) received notification of this occurrence by telephone from Georgia Power Company at 2:00 p.m. on August 18.

Contact: V. L. Brownlee, RII 242-5579; R. C. Lewis, RII 242-5680

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