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SNRC REGION II
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Georgia Power

Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant

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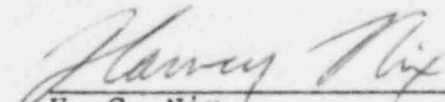
PM-82-1325
December 17, 1982

PLANT E. I. HATCH
Licensee Event Report
Docket No. 50-321

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region II
Suite 3100
101 Marietta Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

ATTENTION: Mr. James P. O'Reilly

Pursuant to section 6.9.2 of Hatch Unit 1 Technical Specifications, please find attached Special Report # 50-321/1982-03.



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Narrative for Special Report

50-321/1982-003

This Special Report is submitted to report two events; (1) the loss of fire water tank storage inventory below the minimum acceptable limits as specified in Unit 1 Technical Specifications 3.13.2.b and Unit 2 Technical Specifications 3.7.6.1.b, and (2) the failure to report the above event per the requirements of Unit 1 Technical Specifications 3.13.2 ACTION b and Unit 2 Technical Specifications 3.7.6.1 ACTION b. Information relating to these events is given below:

On November 27, 1982, an air compressor in the 1B Cooling Tower fire protection spray system failed (Deviation Report 1-82-216, dated 11/27/82). The loss of the air compressor caused the air pilot detection system pressure to drop resulting in the actuation of two deluge valves. Two fire pumps started on low fire protection system header pressure and began decreasing the fire water storage tank volume.

Also, the fire protection system alarm at the Cooling Tower failed to actuate in the Control Room. As a result, the loss of fire water inventory was not discovered and isolated until storage tank minimum acceptable limits were exceeded. Unit 1 Tech. Specs. 3.13.2.b and Unit 2 Tech. Specs. 3.7.6.1.b require a minimum contained level of 270,000 gal. per storage tank. A total useable volume of approximately 215,000 gal. was retained in each tank (430,000 gal. total) and all three fire pumps remained operable. The system was restored to operable status within the Tech. Specs. time limit. The health and safety of the public were not affected by this repetitive occurrence as last reported on LER 50-321/1981-135.

The previous event, reported on LER 50-321/1981-135, was submitted under the requirements of Unit 1 Tech. Specs. Section 3.13.2 ACTION a. and Unit 2 Tech. Specs. Section 3.7.6.1 ACTION a., both requiring a 30-day report. However, during the process of reviewing the data for reportability of Deviation Report 1-82-216, a question as to the applicability of reporting requirements under Unit 1 Tech. Specs. Section 3.13.2 ACTION b.2 and Unit 2 Tech. Specs. section 3.7.6.1 ACTION b.2 was raised. After reviewing these sections and consulting with Georgia Power Company Licensing personnel, it was determined that reporting requirements of 3.13.2 ACTION b.2 (Unit 1 TS) and 3.7.6.1 ACTION b.2 (Unit 2TS) should have been met (Deviation Report 1-82-230, dated 12-16-82). Therefore, neither the required telephone contact within 24 hours, the confirmation transmission within the first working day following the event, nor the 14-day written report was submitted within the time frame specified.

Narrative for Special Report

50-321/1982-003

Page 2

To prevent recurrence of the fire water storage tank low level problem modifications are currently in progress to install more reliable level switches in the tanks. Other options will be studied to further increase tank level reliability.