UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

in the matter of

GEORGIA POWER COMPANY, et al

(Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 1 & 2)

Docket No. 50-424 OL 50-425 OL

Location: Augusta, Georgia

Pages: __ 1 - 165

Date: Wednesday, May 30, 1984

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter ot:

GEORGIA POWER COMPANY et al.

(Vogtle Electric Generating Plant Units 1 and 2)

ASLBP 84-499-01-0L

Richmond County Municipal Building Room 315 (Third Floor Courtroom) 530 Green Street Augusta, Georgia

Wednesday, May 30, 1984

fine special prehearing conference in the above-entitled matter convened, pursuant to notice, at 9:30 a.m.

BEFORE:

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MORTON B. MARGULIES, ESQ., Chairman Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D. C. 20555

OSCAR H. PARIS, Member Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D. C. 20555

GUSTAVE A. GINENBERGER, JR., Member Atomic Sarety and Licensing Board Panel U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D. C. 20555

APPEARANCES:

On Behalf of the Applicant:

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- and -

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- and -

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Division of Licensing
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On Behalf of the Intervenor Campaign for a Prosperous Georgia:

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- and -

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On Behalf of the Intervenor Georgians Against Nuclear Energy:

DOUGLAS C. TEPER 1209 N. Decatur Road Atlanta, Georgia 30306

- and -

DAN FEIG 1130 Atlanta Avenue Atlanta, Georgia

PROCEEDINGS

JUDGE MARGULIES: Please come to order.

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

This matter involves an application Filed with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission by Georgia Power Company and others for a license to operate Units 1 and 2 of the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant which is under construction in Burke County, Georgia. The proceeding is docketed under Nos. 50-424 OL 50-425 OL and ASLBP 84-499-01-01.

pollowing the publishing of a notice of opportunity for hearing, Campaign for a Prosperous Georgia and Georgians Against Nuclear Energy filed petitions to intervene and requested the holding of a hearing. Applicant and staff did not object to their interest and standing.

A petition filed by Coastal Citizens for a Clean Environment was objected to on the grounds it failed to show standing and interest. Supplemental petitions containing proposed contentions were filed by CPG and GANE which, it admitted, would permit the petioners to intervene as parties in the proceeding.

This special prehearing conference is held pursuant to our older of March 9th, 1984 and will take up the matters of the status of the parties whether the proposed contentions are litigatable and other issues

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ordered to be considered, including future scheduling.

Yesterday we received CPG's amendments to its supplemental petition at a motion for waiver of 10 CFR 51.53C pertaining to need for power or alternative energy sources.

having broadly outlined the matters to be considered at this special prehearing conference, it is appropriate at this time to introduce the Members of the Licensing Board.

On my right is Judge Gustave A. Linenberger.

Judge Linenberger is a nuclear physicist.

On my left is Dr. Oscar H. Paris. He is an environmental scientist.

I am Morton B. Margulies, the Chairman of the Licensing Board. My background is in administrative law.

We will now take appearances.

Who applears for the applicant?

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Mr. Chairman, my name is George F. Trowbridge. I am a member of the Washington, D. C. firm of Shaw, Pittman, Potts and Trowbridge and have filed my appearance in this proceeding.

On my left is Mr. James Joiner of the Atlanta law firm of Iroutman, Sanders, Lockerman and Ashmore.

To my rear is David Lewis from our office.

I would like, if I may, to also, Mr. Chairman,

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introduce a number of officers of the company who are ì 2 present today, and I will ask them to stand as I call their 3 names. 4 JUDGE MARGULIES: I just want to take 5 appearances of counsel at this time unless they are going 6 to appear in a representative capacity, Mr. Trowbridge. 7 MR. TROWBRIDGE: No. They are here out of 8 interest in the proceeding I thought it would be a good Q idea to introduce them perhaps after counsel. 10 JUDGE MARGULIES: Who appears for the staff? 11 MR. PERLIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. 12 My name is Robert Perlis. I am with the Office 13 of the Executive Legal Director. 14 To my right is Melaine Miller, the NRC's 15 Project Manager in the Division of Licensing. 16 JUDGE MARGULIES: Who appears for the 17 Intervenors? 18 MR. FOWLER: My name is Laurie Fowler. I am an 19 attorney with the Legal Environmental Assistance Foundation 20 and we are representing Campaign For A Prosperous Georgia 21 in this proceeding. 22 To my right is Tim Johnson, the Executive 23 Director of Campaign For A Prosperous Georgia. 24 Also representing us are Mark Merlin and Howard 25 Deutsch of CPG.

2 representatives, the other representatives of CPG, are they 3 counsel? 4 MR. FOWLER: They are not attorneys, but they 5 will be speaking in this proceeding regarding specific 6 contentions. JUDGE MARGULIES: Who represents GANE? 8 MR. TEPER: My name is Doug Teper. I am with 9 Georgians Against Nuclear Energy. 10 With us today is Daniel Feig from Atlanta and 11 Carol Stangler. 12 JUDGE PARIS: Mr. Teper, would you spell your 13 name for us, please. 14 MR. TEPER: It is T-e-p-e-r. T as in Tom, E, 15 P as in Peter, ER. 16 JUDGE PARIS: Thank you. 17 JUDGE MARGULIES: Are any of your 18 representatives admitted to the bar? 19 MR. TEPER: No, we are not. 20 JUDGE MARGULIES: Mr. Prowbridge, would you want 21 to introduce the officers that you intended to introduce? 22 MR. TROWBRIDGE: Yes. Mr. Robert Scherer who is 23 Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of 21 Georgia Power Company. Mr. James Miller who is President of

JUDGE MARGULIES: In terms of the

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Georgia Power Company. Mr. Richard Kelley, Executive Vice

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President of Georgia Power. Mr. Richard Conway who is Senior Vice President and Mr. Donald Foster who is Vice President and General Manager of the Vogtle Project.

Also, a Vice President both of Georgia Power Company and of the Southern Company Services, Mr. Ruble Thomas. The Municiple Electric Authority of Georgia, part-owner of the plant, is represented here today by Mr. Donald Stokley, General Manager. Mr. Stacey, representing Oglethorp Power Corporation, was not able at the last minute to come.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Thank you, Mr. Trowbridge.

Are there any preliminary matters?

MR. TEPER: Mr. Chairman, GANE would just like to be listed in the record that in the future if there should be any hearings we think there should be accommodations more suitable where there will be separations between different parties that are here and more tables and more space and chairs.

JUDGE MARGULIES: It is a comment that has merit to it.

MR. TEPER: Thank you, sir.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: I would like to inquire of Mr. Teper whether GANE is offering any revisions of its contentions?

JUDGE MARGULIES: We will get into that, Mr.

Trobridge when we pick up the individual contentions. When we get to the duplicative contentions inquiry will be made of that aspect.

The first thing that we should do is take up the status of the parties. As I understand, there is no objection to the interest and standing of GANE and GPG. Citizens For Clean Environment is not present and they have not attempted to overcome the deficiencies that were pointed out by applicant and staff and they have not filed any proposed contentions in this proceeding.

We will next to to the matter of the proposed contentions and we will take up CPG's proposed contentions.

On the basis of the letter that we received yesterday dated May 27th, 1984, it is our understanding that CPG's Contention No. 1 has been withdrawn. Is that correct?

MR. FOWLER: Yes, sir.

JUDGE MARGUGIES: We next come to CPG's proposed Contention No. 2 dealing with the need for power. A motion has been filed by CPG for waiver of 10 CFR 51.53C. I believe the better procedure to follow in this matter is to have the parties file a written response.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: That is what we plan to do. We will file a written response within the time normally allowed for motions and we will oppose the request for

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waiver. 2 JUDGE MARGULIES: Does the staff have any 3 objection to that procedure? 4 MR. PERLIS: No. 5 JUDGE MARGULIES: Does CPG have any comment on 6 that? 7 MR. FOWLER: We have two more affidavits that 8 are being copies right now that we would like to submit, 9 and we will nand those to you at the next break. We are 10 having copies made right now. These are the supporting 11 affidavits for the petition. 12 JUDGE MARGULIES: Is there any objection to 13 that? 14 MR. TROWBRIDGE: I would ask that our time to 15 respond run from today, it we receive them today, rather 16 than the earlier service date. 17 18 and the time to respond will run from today. 19 20

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JUDGE MARGULIES: That is a reasonable request

That brings us up to proposed Contention No. 3 on financial qualifications. Both staff and applicant have requested that this matter be deferred in that it is anticipated that the Commission will come out with a proposed quideline on the handling of such contentions. Is there any objection to following that procedure?

MR. FOWLER: Yes, sir. As you know, on February

7th, 1984, the U. S. Court of Appeals, the D. C. Circuit found that the Commission's rule eliminating financial qualifications review requirements for electric utilities was not validly the basis and was not validly supported.

Since then the court has issued a mandate and we contend that as of now that financial qualifications rule is not in effect and financial qualifications is something that should be considered now by the Board. The Court has issued its mandate.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Mr. Chairman?

JUDGE MARGULIES: Yes, Mr. Trowbridge.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: The Commission met last
Thursday and voted on a policy statement and directive to
the Boards. That is not available yet because it is going
to be accompanied by separate opinions. It was a three to
one vote, but the substance of the Commission action, which
I think is binding on this Board, is that the Boards will
be directed not to entertain financial qualification
contentions in proceedings pending the adoption by the
Commission of a new rule.

Obviously the Board will wish to see that before action, but I think once the statement comes out the Board will be in a position to act on it.

JUDGE MARGULIES: I have been in a travel status for the last four weeks. So I have not been in the office

last Thursday and have not seen anything on the Commission's action. I believe it will be appropriate to review the Commission's action before we take any action on proposed Contention 3.

Would applicant and the staff agree that the proposed contention would be considered as having been tiled timely in the five-part test for late filed contentions wouldn't apply to this contention should it be considered appropriate for hearing in this proceeding?

MR. TROWBRIDGE: I think it was timely filed, was it not?

MR. PERLIS: Yes. The contention was timely filed. I don't think there is any question about that. I think it is merely a question of whether the Commission in its policy statement will or will not allow contentions like this to be heard.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Moving on to proposed Contention No. 4, it is my understanding from the letter of May 27th that that, too, has been withdrawn. Is that correct?

MR. FOWLER: Yes, sir.

JUDGE MARGUGIES: We next move on to CPG's proposed Contention No. 5 which as originally filed was identical to a contention of GANE which is also GANE 5.

According to the filing on May 27th, 1984, CPG has revised

their proposed Contention No. 5.

At this time I would like to ask GANE's representative as to whether GANE is following the same procedure as CPG and revising their contention accordingly?

MR. TEPER: We are going to stay with GANE's original contention on that one.

MR. FOWLER: We would like to explain why we modified that contention, the basis of the contention, and Mr. Johnson will address that.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Yes, would you please do so.

MR. JOHNSON: Yes, sir. On Thursday of last week

I met with a staff member from the U. S. Geologic Survey

who co-authored the original report postulating the

existence of the Millett earthquake fault. He informed me

that he had just completed new core samplings in the

area and he essentially verified the conclusions of the NRC

staff and the applicant and said that there is probably not

a fault there and, if there is, it is not capable. So we

are withdrawing the portion of our contention dealing with

the Millett earthquake fault.

On the other hand, we want to re-emphasize that the information concerning the Charleston earthquake is different from the information that was available to the NRC at the time of the construction permitting. At that time the USGS believed that there was a fault centered in

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Charleston that caused that earthquake and the design for the Vogtle nuclear plant was based on that postulated fault.

However, since that time the USGS has been unable to pinpoint any fault in Charleston and their studies are ongoing. Therefore, at this piont they do not know the cause of the Charleston earthquake or where the fault causing the Charleston earthquake might lie.

We feel that until more study is done that the design basis on which the company based the seismic standards are not valid.

In addition to that, since that time there have been observed several faults north of the site that once again validate our concern with the seismic capability of the plant.

The co-author if that original Millett study gave me the most recent map for the area, and in 1975, 1977 and in 1976 there were further earthquake faults observed within about 30 miles of the plant site to the north along the Savannah River. This once again emphasizes the need for further study and for hearings on these problems.

JUDGE DINENBERGER: Sir, on this point, the
Board would like to inquire of your people perhaps a little
more explicit rationale behind your position that because
USGS seems not to have identified a specific tault at

Charleston that you feel that the implication of this is negative with respect to the adequacy of the seismic design specifications for Vogtle? I have not understood the rationale for that. You say it, but I haven't heard you explain it. Perhaps I missed something.

MR. JOHNSON: Yes, sir. Well, the Charleston earthquake, as the Commission is probably aware, was the second worst earthquake ever recorded east of the Mississippi River in the United States.

It occurred in 1886, and at that time they did not have the equipment to measure it. I don't even think there was such a thing as the Reiter scale or the Mercalli scale at that time. However, it is now estimated that it was somewhere in the range of 8 to 10 on the Mercalli scale, which is above the range for which the Vogtle plant was designed.

In fact, the design basis for the Jogtle plant considered that if there were an earthquake in Charleston of a comparable magnitude to the one occurring in 1886, the the Vogtle plant would be able to withstand that with its current seismic design.

At that time that seemed to be a valid design basis, at the time of the construction permitting, because the USGS had informed the NRC and the applicant that the Charleston earthquake was probably caused by a fault

centered in Charleston.

study. For the last 10 to 12 years they have intensively studied the area and they concluded, as described in a letter to Robert Jackson, the Chief of the Geosciences Branch for the Division of Engineering for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the letter was from James Devine, Assistant Director for Engineering - Geology of USGS: "After several years of intensive study in the Charleston region, no geologic structure or feature can be identified unequivocably as the source of the 1886 Charleston earthquake."

The concern, and the USGS is continuing its study, but the concern is that the fault may not actually be centered in Charleston. I mean an earthquake could be centered in a place and the fault extend much further than they postulated at the time the construction permit was issued.

Theretore, the design basis for the Vogtle plant, based on an earthquake of comparable magnitude in Charleston, might not be sufficient for an earthquake of comparable magnitude occurring closer to the plant.

Items that seem to perhaps validate that the area is more active seismically than was thought at the time include the discovery of these smaller faults just

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north of the plant site.

your argument is that the inability of the USGS to pinpoint a responsible fault specifically in the Charleston area causes you to conclude that whatever fault might have been responsible for the 1886 event had to be closer to Vogtle than the Charleston location. That is one of two possibilities. The other possibility being it could be farther away from Vogtle.

Although perhaps I didn't frame my question properly, part of my own question here is is there something that causes you to think that the closer possibility is more likely than the farther possibility?

MR. JOHNSON: Well, the geology of the area around the Voytle plant site appears quite similar to the plant geology of the area around Charleston. I don't have any specific studies that we have hired geologists to do, but what we are are saying is not that the fault necessarily is closer to Plant Vogtle, but merely that it is something that needs to be heard and that needs to be examined and the contention should be a part of this hearing, particularly in view of the discovery of these smaller faults to the north of the plant site which may or may not be related to the Charleston earthquake.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: Thank you, sir.

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MR. JOHNSON: Thank you.

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(Board conferring.)

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MR. FEIG: Mr. Chairman?

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JUDGE MARGULIES: Yes.

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MR. FLIG: Could GANE add something to that, or

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actually GANE would like to restate its position and make

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sure that our concern still exists with the fact that the

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Millett tault was stated as existing. We would still feel that the it has not been conclusively proven that the

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design of the plant meets the standards that would be

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required to withstand any kind of seismic activity in that

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area.

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JUDGE MARGULIES: Mr. Trowbridge, do you have

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MR. PROWBRIDGE: Yes, please, several matters.

I would go back to the advice which USGS gave

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One, the suggestion that this is new

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information in the 1982 USGS letter to Mr. Jackson, which

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was correctly quoted, namely that no geologic structure or

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reature can be identified unequivocably as the source of

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the 1886 Charleston earthquake.

anything to state in response?

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to the NRC at the time of the construction permit. That

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advice is quoted on page 37 of our response, and reading it

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in part: "The tectonic structures in the vicinity of this

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earthquake are not well defined, but there does appear to

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be a concentration of seismic activity in the basin south bf the Cape Fear arch and particularly in the Charleston, South Carolina area. Available geological and seismological evidence indicates that the higher intensity earthquakes are localized along the deepest part of the axis of the basin."

This is precisely the basis on which we have concluded that the Charleston earthquake is localized in a zone, the nearest point to the plant being some 78 miles.

The USGS has not changed its advice and its advice was not based in the first instance on a known fault.

Mr. Johnson has made the statement that the geology at the site is similar to the geology in Charleston. There is no basis for that statement provided in their contention. There is no citation to any basis for that statement, and certainly the USGS report does not support that statement.

Mr. Johnson has referred, without identifying them and without naving mentioned them in their contention, to some faults 30 miles from the site. I question whether at this stage of the game there ought to be additions to the basis which we have not had an opportunity to address, but if he could identify them by name, it may well be that they are already addressed in our FSAR.

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JUDGE MARGULIES: Do you wish to respond, Mr. Johnson?

MR. JOHNSON: Okay. I will begin by identifying them by name. The report is entitled "Index of Faults of Cretaceous and Cenozoic Age in the Eastern United States" by David C. Prowell. On the report they are numbered 68, 70, 71 and 72. 'None of the particular faults are identified by name. They are identified by number on this map. Seventy through 72 are identified generally as being in the Belair fault zone. Sixty-eight, under the column listing "Fault Name" they have no name for it in the LSGS report. They detail who found it and the longitude and the latitude of the faults, which I would be happy to provide the applicants, it you wish.

As regards to the USGS statement in 1974 that was just quoted by Mr. Trowbridge, they also stated at that time that it should be assumed that moderate earthquakes up to intensity 6 could occur in the general vicinity of the site.

In general all of this information at that time was based on the USGS assumption, and the USGS has said this, that the Charleston earthquake, the major fault causing the Charleston earthquake was centered in Charleston.

Since that time they have specifically stated,

and 1982, as a matter of fact, was the date of the letter to NRC from USGS, November 16, 1982, they specifically stated that after all these years of study they cannot state with the same certainty that they thought they had before, I mean they weren't absolutely certain because they hadn't done all the studies in 1974 where this thing is excerpted, but at that time they were fairly sure that the Charleston earthquake, that there was a fault centered in Charleston.

They have done intensive study, and those were the words of the USGS, in that region and have not been able to identify the fault.

we are merely saying that we think this should be heard further and that the USGS people should be brought forward to address these issues and explain what studies are ongoing and what the likelihood today is in their opinion of a higher intensity earthquake than the design basis.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Mr. Trobridge.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: I know of no basis whatsoever for Mr. Johnson't statement that USGS originally there was a definite fault. The material I have quoted talked about a seismic activity and that was the basis of the USGS advice.

The Belair faults are very old faults and they are described and discussed in our FSAR. We are looking at

the moment for an exact reference to the section of the FSAR.

JUDGE MARGUGIES: Mr. Perlis, do you wish to be heard?

MR. PERLIS: Yes. First, I would like to comment on the Millett fault. As far as we have been able to tell, no seismologist or geologist has identified that fault as a capable one. In the absence of CPG coming in with any reason to believe that it is a capable one, we think that portion of the contention should not be heard.

As to the Charleston fault, although we are hearing some new information today, the only original information really consists of two items. One, that the exact location of the Charleston earthquake has not been identified and, secondly, that the geology around the Vogele site may be similar to the Charleston site.

As to the second one, I am not a geologist, but there is nothing in the contention which would indicate that that might be true, that the geology around Vogtle may be the same as the geology of the Charleston area.

As to the first one, it is not my understanding that USGS has said that the Charleston earthquake could occur near the Vogtle site, and there again is no basis to believe that that might be the case.

MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, I think the burden

of proof is on the applicant that the geology is stable in that area. I think there are considerable questions that have been brought forth and the USGS seems unsure themselves. I think this needs to be a matter of further inquiry and needs to be a matter for further hearing.

It is not incumbent upon the intervenors to provide proof that there is a capable earthquake there. It is incumbent upon the applicant to prove that the credibility of their seismic design is proper and can withstand any possible quake.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Mr. Chairman, there is considerable discussion, there was at the construction permit stage and there is again at the operating license stage, in our FSAR as to the basis on which we conclude what the seismic design of the plant should be and where we postulate the earthquake.

We have met our burden of proof at this point in the contention. It is encumbent upon the petitioners to say what is wrong and what do they quarrel with. That is what contention and basis is about.

MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, in response to that I would just like to say that in the FSAR that was provided by the applicant and earlier in their construction permit they made certain assumptions about the geologic capability of the area. Since then new information has been come out

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by the USGS and I think there is considerable question as to the assumptions that the applicant initially made.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Could you cite us something specifically on what you base your assertion that the geology around Voytle is the same as Charleston?

MR. JOHNSON: Yes, sir. As I told you, last week I went and spoke with the author of the study which postulated the Millett fault and also he wrote this later study for USGS or just index the index of faults.

He said that he did not want to be quoted as saying there is going to be an earthquake at Plant Vogtle or there is a fault there or anything like that. He was very adamant about not wanting to be represented as taking a position on the plant or anything of the sort.

However, I asked him if he could just give me general background intormation on his study of the Millett fault plus this other information, and he is the one that stated that the geology in this whole region of the country is very similar as far as the underlying structures.

he also stated that 10 years ago the USGS did believe that the fault was centered in Charleston. Again, he has participated in these studies that they have not been able to determine the source of the Charleston earthquake.

I think it would be useful to the Commission as

well as to the intervenors to have the USGS, whether he would be the one or someone else with USGS, come forth, and they might very well say that they think the design of the plant is fine, but then they might not. We just believe that there are enough questions here that it needs to be heard further.

JUDGE MARGULIES: I don't recollect if you fully identified the individual for the record and would you please do so.

MR. JOHNSON: Okay. Again he is not a witness for us. His name is David C. Prowell, P-r-o-w-e-l-l.

JUDGE MARGULIES: And what is his title?

MR. JOHNSON: He is with the Atlanta Regional Office of the USGS and he is a geologist, but I do not know what his title is.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Where is the Atlanta Regional Office, right in Atlanta?

MR. JOHNSON: Yes, sir, on Peachtree Industrial Boulevard.

MR. FEIG: Mr. Chairman, I want to bring this up now because I think we are talking about some really important things and there are a lot of people back here that can't hear and we are having trouble up here sometimes hearing across the room. I wonder if there is a PA system or something. Also, it would be a lot easier.

We are not represented by legal counsel and have really not had experience in a hearing like this before. We are not really clear of the format of this meeting and what is going to actually happen today and what decisions are going to be made, and I think the public should be made aware of those kinds of things that are going to happen here. I think we just sort of jumped into it, and I sort of feel like I would like a little clarification as to the direction that we are sort of heading today.

JUDGE MARGULIES: We will make no decisions here today. We are inquiring into the areas in which we feel we need additional intormation and no decisions will be made on any of the contentions here today.

Mr. Trowbridge, before this prenearing conterence is over, could you give us the citations, or if you have them now, would you tell us where that information appears?

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Well, the Belair fault zone is specifically discussed in Sectionn 2.5.1.1.4.2.1.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Of the FSAR?

JUDGE LINENBERGER: Of the FSAR?

MR. IROWBRIDGE: Of the FSAR. It is at page

2.5.1-14.

(Board conferring.)

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JUDGE MARGULIES: That brings us up to CPG proposed Contention 6 which is identical to that of GANE's.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: May I give you the punchline from that FSAR citation, which is the last sentence. "The most recent documentable movement along the Belair tault zone occurred about 40 million years ago."

JUDGE MARGULIES: We now go to proposed

Contention 6 and I ask the intervenors, having seen

applicant's and start's responses, is there any change or

anything you wish to add or inform us of in connection with

your proposed Contention 6?

MR. FOWLER: No, sir, not CPG.

MR. TEPER: No, sir.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: No questions, but since GANE expressed a concern about a lack of familiarity with proceedings such as this today on the part of themselves and the audience, perhaps it is in order to make a supplementary statement to what the Chairman said with respect to our not making any decisions today. Indeed, we are not going to.

The other thing that I think is important to keep in mind is that this is not really a forum in which the merits of any proposed contentions are to be debated. That may appear to be a fine line at some points because

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there will be questions about the adequacy of the bases that have been supplied in support of contentions and it may sound like we are getting into the merits.

It is not the Board intent to get into the merits of any issues here, but only to explore whether they are adequately supported by information that allows us to make a decision as to admissibility.

Thank you.

MR. FEIG: It is still a public meeting, right, in the sense of people should be able to hear what is being said. If we can hardly near up ners, I don't think the people in the back can hear what is being said. I feel like something should be done as far as accessibility for people to hear what is being said.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Well, I have heard no complaints from any of the spectators.

voice: I can't hear. I can't hear a word he said, Mr. Trobridge, and I can barely hear what they say.

JUDGE MARGULIES: well, why don't you move up to the front bench.

VOICE: What?

JUDGE MARGULIES: why don't you move up to the front bench.

VOICE: There is no room.

(Pause while the two available mikes are

adjusted.)

JUDGE MARGULIES: We next go to proposed Contention 7.

MR. TEPER: Sir, I believe we were going to discuss Contention No. 6 first.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Okay. CPG said they had nothing further to respond.

MR. TEPER: I understand we are not discussing the merits, but I would just like to clarify in my own mind and also for the members of the public who have come here, my understanding is we are not here to discuss unresolved safety issues that are generic to the nuclear industry and we are supposed to become more plant specific, meaning if there are certain generic issues such as thermal shock to the pressure vessels that we have to justify how this applies to Plant Vogtle; is that correct?

JUDGE MARGULIES: Those are the assertions of the applicant and staff.

MR. TEPER: Well, would GANE be correct in stating the fact that thermal shock would apply to plant Vogtle because they do have pressure vessels which are subject to this generic issue?

(Board conferring.)

MR. TEPER: I think my question is I am looking for how to apply generic safety issues to specific plants.

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It is my assumption, and I don't know if it is fair to assume, that generic safety issues which apply to specific plants should be brought up and be a subject of further hearing.

(Pause while the Board speaks with building personnel about getting additional microphones for the nearing room.)

JUDGE MARGUELES: Do you wish to respond, Mr. Perlis?

MR. PERLIS: The NRC does deal in its SER with unresolved satety issues and how they relate.

JULGE MARGULIES: Could you please speak up.

MR. PERLIS: The NRC in its SER will deal with unresolved safety issues and how they relate to a particular plant and, as I say, that will be in the safety evaluation report which for this plant is expected to be issued sometime next June 1985.

At this stage if a petitioner wishes to raise a contention dealing with an unresolved safety issue, it is the staff's position that they have to show some connection between that issue and the plant in question. That would not necessarily be true with every plant in question. I don't think the fact that there is a pressure vessel at Vogtle is the type of specific nexus that the Appeal Board was looking for in River Bend, which is the case we have

cited.

MR. TEPER: Mr. Chairman, if the applicant has not proved that they have taken care of this generic safety issue, which I believe is under study by the NRC, then I believe that applies very specifically.

I would like to ask at this time if GANE would be in order it as soon as the environmental report comes from Plant Vogice, at that time if we would be able to submit more bases and possibly more contentions because more information would be then provided at that time that might or might not address the problems that we are raising at this time.

JUDGE PARIS: The document that Mr. Perlis was referring to was the SER, the safety evaluation report and not the environmental report.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Mr. Chairman, may I speak for a moment?

JUDGE MARGULIES: Yes.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: We supplied early in the game copies of our FSAR and our environmental report to both pecitioners, and we have furnished supplements and amendments to it.

There is a great deal of discussion in the FSAF. about the pressure vessel design, the materials that it is made of, the fact that we complied with the NRC's fracture

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toughness criteria in Appendix G to Part 50 and that we conducted the surveillance requirements of Appendix H.

We have also filed an amendment with the NRC and furnished it to the petitioners in which we have a specific calculation for this reactor and its particular materials of when, if ever, we would reach even the screening criteria NDT, and the calculation shows that in over a period of 40 years, assuming an 80 percent capacity factor, that we would not come anywhere near for this particular reactor vessel the screening criteria.

Now, Mr. Chairman. I am conscious of the fact that the Board is not considering the merits at this time, and much of our response inevitably sounds as though we were discussing the merits. That is the product, but not the purpose of what we have done.

The purpose of our responses, and this one included, is to show the Board the amount of information which has been provided and which the petitioners have simply not addressed.

We have cited cases, particularly the Catawba case that was a Commission decision, concerning the obligations which petitioners have to read and respond to material, and I think the threshold for a basis and specificity is very closely tied to the amount of information that they have available to them to which they

could respond.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: For the Board's information may we inquire here does GANE have access to the final safety analysis report and has GANE familiarized itself with the discussion contained therein on the pressure vessel problem?

MR. TEPER: Yes, sir, we have familiarized ourself with the FSAR.

JUDGE GINENBERGER: All right, that answers that.

Secondly, has GANE tamiliarized itself with the Commission's position with respect to unresolved safety issues as explicated in the River Bend decision referred to by Mr. Perlis?

(Pause.)

JUDGE LINENBURGER: I gather you are reading something to find out whether the answer to my question is yes or no.

MR. TEPER: I am actually glad you asked that question. Unless it was contained in the response from the NRC to the applicant or to the intervenors, we probably naven't done further study. GANE has sought access to the library at the Region II office to get further information about unresolved safety issues and how they apply to specific hearings. We don't want to prolong this hearing

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any more than we have to.

Unfortunately, the Region II office is not set up for public use per se, other than having somebody guide holding hands or step by step. Because of that, GANE did make the request to have a type of Public Document Room. Along the lines of that request we would like to have been provided with studies that are being done on unresolved safety issues, and at that point we would not have to bring that up. It might be the focus of a separate kind of hearing. But because we do not have access to that kind of information, we find it necessary to bring up unresolved safety issues at this hearing.

site that you referred to. I do know that from our contention we tasked about that the reactor vessel for Plant Vogtle contains 0.10 to 0.12 percent copper and 0.012 to 0.020 pecent phosphorous, which is out of their FSAR. But no discussion is undertaken by the applicant as to the effects of these levels of impurities on accelerated brittleness and increased reference temperature for the pressure vessel. That is the contention.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: Well, you could have enlarged that list and said that the applicant didn't discuss the effect of the phase of the moon on the same thiking. Now what causes you to believe that copper and

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phosphorous, the presence of those elements in the pressure vessel alloy do indeed accelerate embrittlement?

Now I don't really need a detailed answer to that question now, the Board doesn't, but that is I think a good example of where you could indeed have strengthened the basis to your contention. You threw out copper and phosphorous or whatever and say, look there, it wasn't talked about.

well, the phase of the moon wasn't talked about, the distance of the sun wasn't talked about and all sorts of things weren't talked about, but until you can tie them in to being meaningful to acceleration of embrittlement, it is not in doubt that they weren't talked about.

MR. TEPER: Sir, I uon't believe the pressure vessel is made up of the moon or the sun, but it is made up of phorphorous and copper and there is an embrittlement problem which relates to the content.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: You have cited nothing to show that in our basis.

Now let me ask you another thing. This is the one contention where both GANE and CPG explicitly use the word "guarantee" with respect to health and safety matters and it has been this Board or this Board Member's experience that guarantees are never a matter for

litigation, not in the sense of the general health and safety of the public.

Now why did you go to the word "guarantee" here racher than the usually accepted reasonable assurance kind of terminology? Was there a reason for it or was it inadvertent?

MR. TEPER: It was inadvertent.

JUDGE GINENBERGER: All right. Please, then, let's not dwell on it.

MR. TEPER: Okay. As regards to the impurities, is it not true that there are certain things that are scientifically accepted that the committee would be aware of that we would not have to go into detail in, such as the fact that these impurities could have an impact on the speed of embrittlement and so forth and that merely by pointing out that it wasn't addressed that this Board would know within its staff and its own knowledge that those things have an impact and we don't have to go into every detail just like we wouldn't have to say the sun rises in the morning because you already know that.

But we have to say what impact that has on the plant, and the impact here is that the impurities in a reactor vessel can aftect the rate of embrittlement and the reterence temperature for the pressure vessel. The applicant did not address that and that is the reason we

raised the contention.

JUDGE EINENBERGER: Let me ask you, sir, just to carry that point out a wee bit further, and I don't want to dwell again on the merits, but what causes you to classify or characterize these as impurities as opposed to their being intention additives because of some beneficial effect of their presence?

You call them impurities and maybe the metallurgist would call them a beneficial additive. Now something has caused you to not accept their having any beneficial properties, but having negative effect properties, and yet I can't get a handle on where that information comes from and what causes you to take that position.

MR. TEPER: Okay. They might very well have some beneticial effects and they might very well be intentionally placed in the vessel.

However, our point is that they also could have an impact on the rate of embrittlement and, therefore, that that is a key issue that the applicant has not addressed.

We are not contending at this point, you know, as you have said, the argument here is not over the merits. We are merely saying that the applicant has not addressed this and that it is an important issue.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Mr. Chairman.

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JUDGE MARGULIES: Yes.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: we would aggree that the amount of copper and the amount of phosphorous has some effect on the rate of embrittlement, but we would also point out, and I am reterring now to Amendment 5 to our FSAR, that we have done a calculation based on the specific metal content of our reactor vessel with the percentage of copper and the percentage of phosphorous clearly shown and the NDT calculations took those into account, and I haven't heard any quarrel yet with those calculations.

(Board conterring.)

JUDGE MARGULIES: Let's move on to proposed

Contention 7 which deals with the value of the ground water
below the plant site. There has been no change to the
original proposed 7. Do either of the intervenors wish to
make any changes based on the statements of applicant and
statt?

MR. FOWLER: I would like to point out that we aid cite the Hatch nuclear plant annual report to NRC, 1979 to 1980, and that is where the reference to the contamination of tritium from an unknown source came from.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Thank you, and that is the last line of the proposed contention.

MR. FOWLER: Yes, sir.

JUDGE MARGULIES: How about GANE, do they add

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1 chat to their ---MR. TEPER: We would also like to add that cite 3 onto our contention. 4 MR. TROWBRIDGE: Could I have that citation 5 again? I coulan't quite hear you. 6 MR. FOWLER: Yes, sir. It should already be in your amendment. It is HNP Annual Report to NRC 1979 and 8 1980. 9 MR. TROWBRIDGE: Thank you. 10 MR. FOWLER: We just did not bracket it. It is 11 the last sentence in the basis of that Contention 7. 12 (Pause while the second mike was placed on the 13 parties' table by the building engineer.) 14 MR. FEIG: Mr. Chairman, I have some incormation 15 that pertains ---16 JUDGE MARGULIES: Just one minute. 17 Let's go off the record. 18 (Pause.) 19 JUDGE MARGULIES: Back on the record. 20

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MR. FEIG: we have some new information that we have just received today and it pertains to Contention 7 as well as I and 2. I can hand these to the different parties up here, a copy of this, and we will have it typed up by the end of the day. It is just some information that I have just been able to get ahold of and I would like to

elaborate on it whenever we talk about GANE Contention 2 because it does relate that information in that particular contention, but it also does pertain somewhat to what we are talking about in No. 7 here.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Could you indicate how it pertains to 7?

MR. FEIG: This is a letter from Bill Lawless who is here today and can elaborate on this further, but it is a letter. Bill was an employee of the Department of Energy at the Savannah River plant. He was the Senior Project Engineer, Nuclear Waste Management Branch. He was responsible for radioactive low-level waste operational and research for the DOE Savannah River plant burial ground and now is employed at Payne College as a professor in mathematics.

and also talks about the citects of -- I have just gotten this this morning and I really ---

JUDGE MARGULIES: I think the better way to handle this is to defer our consideration of proposed Contention 7 and we will move on to 8 and when you have the copies made and distributed we will go back proposed Contention 7.

That brings us to proposed Contention 8. Some modification has been made by CPG and would you like to

elaborate on that.

MR. FOWLER: Yes, sir. Marc Merline would like to explain that modification.

MR. MERLIN: If I may, what I want to do is elaborate and give a more definite basis ---

JUDGE MARGULIES: Would you like to step up and use the microphone.

MR. MERLIN: Certainly.

What I would like to do is elaborate on the basis of the contention with regard to its applicability. In particular, there is a fair amount of confusion that is demonstrated in the applicant's initial response to this contention, and to the extent that it still exists, I just want to make sure that there is an understanding of parties concerned what the nature of the contention is.

The contention concerns quality assurance procedures in the construction of Plant Vogtle. This is not a claim or allegation that there are violations that have not been resolved or, you know, suitably addressed.

what it is is a claim that the methodology and quality assurance program implemented at Plant Vogtle is not consistent or doesn's comply with the specific regulations in the NRC code, specifically 10 CFR 50 Appendix B.

The primary intention of a quality assurance

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program is to assure or generate adequate confidence in the correct functioning of the plant.

Now that is in sharp contradistinction to the notion that a quality assurance program is following those written procedures that have been mandated and exclusively that those written procedures have been mandated in the construction of the plan.

This is best illustrated in the basis of our contention which describes the failure of radiographs excuted by GPC contractors to include the heat affected zone in welds in some of the piping in the coolant system.

Now again the point isn't whether that is a violation. In fact, I won't even contest that it is not a violation. The violation was withdrawn because this structure in question was actually removed from the plant. So I am not contending that the violation stands, but the impact of the violation is best illustrated in GPC's response to it and in the response from Richard C. Lewis of the NRC to GPU's explanation of the violation.

GPC basically said it was not included in the written code that the radiographs of the heat affected zone should include the area or the weldment. Richard Lewis, acknowledging that the violation had been lifted, proceeded to say "Interpretations of the code by, and these are his words, "code experts make the response appear to set aside

engineering reason when you consider that based on failure analysts' experience the technical world realizes that the heat affected zone of a weld is the most critical area of the weldment."

I think the point here is that quality assurance extends far beyond the simply application of written procedures.

The reason I need to elaborate the contention is that GPC's response to it demonstrated not so much a misunderstanding of the contention, but a misunderstanding, or at least a different interpretation of what constituted quality assurance.

I refer to their response which in fact claims that we failed to appreciate the notions of quality assurance and they reinterate that testing procedures are intended to be explicit and complete. I assume that they mean they will be comprehensive in and of themselves and that the ASME Code, and this is a particular reference, ". . . many sections of which have been incorporated into the NRC's regulations establish the standards for professional practice." Well, therein lies the rub, and that is that the standards that the standards of professional practice far transcend simple written codes.

There are areas of judgment and discretion and critical assessment of procedures and novelties that appear

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in construction and almost actually in any field of numan engineering that have to be considered and evaluated as they go along.

The persistence, and this is elaborated in the basis, of GPC to equate quality assurance exclusively with written procedure is what calls into question the effective compliance with the NRC regulations concerning generating confidence in the correct functioning of the reactor system which they are embarking upon constructing and putting into operation.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: Perhaps you could enlighten the Board as to whether there has been an intentional circumscribing of CPG Contention 8 from that that was originally filed to that which has been amended in your filing of last week.

MR. MEKLIN: Okay.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: Let me get around to an explicit question.

MR. MERLIN: Certainly.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: It would appear from the restatement of CPG 8 on page 14 that CPG is restricting their quality assurance concerns to the subject of welds. That is the statement of the contention in brackets.

The contention previously stated did not seem to be so circumscribed and, indeed, when one reads the

pases you have supplied for the amended CPG 8, it would give the impression that again it is broader than a consideration of welds.

nas to be, as far as this Board member is concerned, explicit about the scope. You can't limit the scope in the contention and then make it far ranging in the bases without explaining to the staff and the applicant what it is you explicitly want to litigate and what they are expected to defend.

MR. MERLIN: I think I can respond to that. As many of the people here are aware and as some may not be, there was a preliminary discussion of these contentions between the parties, CPG and GANE and Georgia Power and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff last week, and some of the amendments that appear and some of the alterations and revisions were in consequence to that. So these have been presented.

The intention of the revision here had much to do with the fact that the applicant's response to the original contention was so far off the mark, in other words, in basically trying to reiterate that these violations had somehow been resolved, which was not the intention, and it was felt necessary to elaborate more specifically in the statement of the contention what the

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specific concerns were.

with regard to pipes and welds as being included in the contention, that really much more is a matter of I think some concern to the implemention of the regulatory procedure. Suffice it to say the code requirement and generation does add confidence.

There seems to be concern about stating contentions that refer specifically to elements of the code that somehow don't refer in time to specific components of the reactor.

naven't heard you say anything that helps me with the answer to my question. Now maybe you are leading up to it, but I am having trouble following all this. Has the contention been narrowed to express a concern only involving welds as contrasted with the prior version which was broader than that, or has it not been so circumscribed.

MR. MERLIN: Okay. It has been circumscribed to include welds.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: Okay.

MR. MERLIN: But, as I say, and I just want to iterate, the contention has to do wit the violation of 10 CFR 50 Appendix B which states that a quality assurance program must be tied to the generation of adequate confidence.

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I mean I don't presume to establish what litigability is, but I do state that this is an element of the code and this is where we feel the applicant has failed in complying to the code.

now it is up to your discretion as to the substance of the hearing to determine whether it is litigable, but to the extent that you are going to require that that be circumscribed to the particular features and scructures of the plant, then I can try to help you along, but I don't constrain my claim to violations of code to simple corresponding features of the plant.

I am saying there is a violation of code and it has been substantiated in the failures of applying appropriate quality assurance procedures in the construction of welds and piping.

JUDGE PARIS: Is it your intention to try to prove that the applicant has not met the requirements of 10 CFR 50 Appendix B by showing that the QA/QC program with regard to welds was inadequate?

MR. MERLIN: Yes, that certainly is substantiating evidence to that effect.

Furthermore, as I say, the applicant's own response to the contention which says, it I can paraphrase it and obviously it might not be acceptable, but we have said that quality assurance programs are indistinguishable

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1 from the explicit and complete written procedures. 2 JUDGE LINENBERGER: was that yes? I didn't hear 3 you answer Judge Paris' question. 4 MR. MERLIN: I am sorry, yes. 5 JUDGE LINENBERGER: Okay. 6 JUDGE MARGULIES: Does that complete your 7 response? 8 MR. MERGIN: Yes. 9 JUDGE MARGULIES: Does GANE join in the revised 10 Contention 8? 11 MR. PEPER: No. Subsequent to the meeting we had 12 last week, we also changed our Contention No. 8, but not in 13 the same wording that they did. We have provided copies to 14 the other parties and we will be supplying a copy to you. 15 We basically made an addition I believe last 16 week ---17 MR. TROWBRIDGE: Oh, a handwritten copy. 18 MR. TEPER: A nandwritten cooy. We will get a 19 typed copy up to you all so you all will know how to 20 respond. It was pasically an addition that tried to limit 21 the scope. 22 GANE basically, to make it real simple, 23 contends that the applicant has failed to enforce a quality 24 assurance program in the construction of Plant Vogtle that 25 provided adequately for the sale functioning of diverse

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Appendix B such that reasonable assurance exists that operatin of the plant will not endanger the public health and safety in that systematic quality assurance deficiencies have existed and continue without resolution in the following areas, and what we have done is named a few just to limit it so we can litigate it.

JUDGE PARIS: What have you named?

MR. FEPER: Proper welding, vendor surveillance, inspection, testing, implementation of procedures and procurement. Along with that GANE periodically receives letters from different people in the nuclear supply industry with concerns about supplies that are being provided to applicant.

Just today we have received a letter from a tormer employee with the blow control division of Rockwell International. His name is Clinton Sumrall and he has master's degree in nuclear engineering and was a former sales engineer of nuclear equipment in the Flow Control Division of Rockwell.

To try to just hurry with this, he says while he was employed by Rockwell ne became concerned that balanced disk mainsteam isolation valves with air spraying actuators turnished to numerous nuclear power plants, and that includes Georgia Power, has not been adequately tested

and therefore could create a substantial safety hazard. The lives of thousands of people could be in danger.

There are attachments to this. However, as according to procedure, I would like to enter this into the record or provide it to the NRC or the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board.

JUDGE MARGULIES: You will need copies for each of the Judges of all of the documents that you wish to hand out and copies for each of the parties.

MR. FEPER: Right. I will provide that. I would just like to point out at this time that we are constantily receiving information from people inside the industry as well as once in a while people on the construction site, and it is difficult I know for you as well as the company to respond to new charges.

When these charges are brought up we will deal with them the best we can, but a procedure that would help us -- I guess I am asking for some help as to what would be the best procedure to let Georgia Power or let the applicant respons and also let you know what is the procedure.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Well, as tar as the Licensing Board is concerned, you would have to conform to the Rules of Practice and the case law that explains the Rules of Practice. It the staff wishes to give you some assistance,

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some direct assistance or advice, you may consult with the staft.

MR. TEPER: Thank you, sir. To sum up the GANE Contention 8, we have named in the basis a whole category of -- basically it came from I&E, inspection and inforcement inspections on the site where they found problems on the construction site. We named a whole list of them and it is a very broad list.

The idea of listing all of this was to snow that there are quality control breakdowns at Plant Vogtle. I know on a large construction site with over 9,000 employees everything is not going to be done letter perfect, and that is why Georgia Power has attempted to conform with your regulations, NRC regulations, but obviously they are failing in that the NRC continues to identify issues that are going uninspected or are ignored by the applicant and that is what GANE's contention is.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Thank you.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Mr. Chairman, let me first respond to CPG's revised concention.

The sole example that CPG has given for what they regard as undue attention to written procedure rather than more comprehensive QA, the sole example is the failure to radiograph the heat affected zone beside the weld.

I would simply point out to the Board, and

particularly to Dr. Linenberger, that we are under obligation by regulation and by code to do complete UT, ultrasonic testing of all safety related piping, an that includes the heat affected zone and is a very excellent for detecting cracks and defects.

I find it more difficult to respond to GANE. I will simply that that the basis provided and the items cited by GANE simply, in our view, do not add up to support for the broad allegation that our construction QA program is inadequate and much less the contention that it mirrors similar situations as Zimmer and Byron.

by GANE in support of their contention in the basis into several categories. Some of them fall into the category of several I suggest minor notices of violation, one of which was a severity level four and all of the other ones which were severity level 5. I would suggest that in a construction program of these dimensions that is an excellent 2A record.

JUDGE PARIS: Mr. Trowbridge, is tive more severe than four, or it the other way around?

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Then there are cited as further examples or inadequate QA some breakdowns in contractor performance which I submit, as we stated in our response, were actually discovered and corrected by Georgia Power

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Company and are evidence of the functioning of the QA program and not of deficiencies in it.

Lastly, there is a small category of questions about our QA program from the NRC. I submit when you read our response and the nature of the questions, that they have nothing to do with good or bad QA.

MR. TEPER: Mr. Chairman, I would like to respond to that.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Just one minute.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: I think the Board is running into a problem here that makes this discussion between GANE and the applicant difficult for us to follow, and the reason for that is that it is not clear to this Member of the Board what it is that GANE finds troublesome.

assurance has at least two facets to it, at least two facets, a comprehensive program that addresses all critical teatures of construction and ultimately operation and maintenance of the plant and, secondly, an applicant organization that dips down into his contractor organizations that assures a proper implementation of that program. Quality assurance gets nowhere without both of those ingredients.

In the manner in which GANE stated its

Contention 8 a raw moments ago, I cannot tell which of

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those ingredients GANE has a problem with so far as the Vogtle plant is concerned, and I think it is going to be difficult for GANE and anybody to communicate without an understanding of which of those two facets GANE is challenging in this contention.

Can you speak to that first before you speak to Mr. Trowbridge's comment please.

MR. TEPER: Yes, sir. A quality assurance program written on paper is not worth the paper it is written on if it is not adequately implemented.

Thus, by me questioning the implementation of the quality assurance program of Georgia Power, I am also implicitly questioning the program as it is written.

Do that answer it?

JUDGE GINENBERGER: Now it does, but it was not at all obvious from what you have said up to this point.

MR. TEPER: Okay. In response to applicant's counsel, it is starting to become obvious to me that applicant doesn't deem it important that it has a series of violation level No. 5 violations.

I say to the Board that there is a cumulative effect of these violations if concrete is not poured right and if storage of the electrical capinets isn't stored right. Maybe those are little, tiny problems according to NRC regulations doesn't mean that applicant gets tined. At

the same time after a while when you put all these components together, you are going to have a plant that is improperly going to operate, and I submit to you that that is a serious threat to the health and welfare of the public around this area.

I believe I just heard counsel say well, we had some problems but they were not very severe. I am asking this Board to have further hearings on quality assurance. As we have seen around the country, there have been more severe specific violations of quality assurance, but I submit that lots of little ones are as dangerous as a major violation. Now I think it needs to be looked into.

Now, once again, the sheer magnitude of the construction site means there are going to be problems and that is Georgia Power has tried with, I should say, a great effort for a good quality assurance program. They have attempted. They have been cited by different organizations as naving a good one.

I once again come back and submit that it seems to me NRC goes on site and does an inspection, nowever often they do it, and they tend to come up with these minor violations.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Mr. Perlis, would you respond to the intervenors' contentions separately.

MR. PERLIS: I would like to try. My problem

with both contentions is really that I am unclear where the focus is. I don't think there is any question that quality assurance is a litigable area in an operating license hearing. But at the same time this board is not sitting as an enforcement Board and the focus should not be solely on whether violations have taken place in the past.

without trying to muddy the waters too much, I can think of three possible areas the contentions can be directed towards and, trankly, I just don't know which of those three, if any, they are directed towards.

One is whether the quality assurance program during operation, and again this is an operating license hearing, will be adequate. The quality assurance program I assume is set out in the FSAR. I mean, there has been no allegation that that program as set up for operation is inadequate. I don't think that is what the contentions are addressing.

There are two possibilities in the construction area. One is, and I believe this is what CPG is now getting towards, that a certain area may be unsafe because of quality assurance deciencies in that area, and I believe they may be making that contention with welding. That I think is approaching an inadmissible contention.

If the allegation is that the quality assurance program as it relates to welding was inadequate and

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will not operate sately, that is an acceptable contention.

I am not sure that that is what CPG is directing their contention at. That is my only question for that organization.

and that is whether overall the quality assurance program ouring construction was an adequate one. I believe that is the contention GANE is getting towards and, unfortunately, they really haven't provided, in my view, enough serious question as to any individual area to warrant what would have to be a very broad inquiry into whether overall there was a functioning quality assurance program or not.

I think to even begin on that sort of inquiry one has to look at a specific area where there have been at least alleagations of substantial problems rather than going through lak reports and finding two citations in an area and saying the quality assurance program doesn't work there.

I just think for that reason GANE's, it is improperly broad and really doesn't have any basis to support the inquiry that it would have the Board and the parties go into.

As I said, I think CPG's is much closer, but I am not sure exactly what they are addressing their

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contention towards.

MR. FOWLER: I would like to explain that in rewording our contention we were focusing on welds that Mr. Merlin was elaborating. There might be specific violations of the regs pertaining to welds in this sense.

He is also saying that sometimes, what he was elaborating on up here was sometimes you can follow the regs and still not come up with an adequate quality assurance that is supposed to assure the NRC and the public that the plant is going to be operated sately, and that is something that a letter from NRC had addressed itself. So that is what he was talking about there. We are focusing on the welds in our contention.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Does that help you, Mr. Perlis?

MR. PERLIS: In part. It would then tell me what we would be litigating, but it wouldn't tell me where the litigation would lead in the end.

Is the contention that the welds themselves are unsage?

MR. FOWLER: Both the welds themselves are unsafe specifically in violations of the regs, plus that the quality assurance program -- do you want to elaborate?

MR. MERLIN: I might elaborate. As Judge Linenberger pointed out, I am not talking about guarantees

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here. We are not claiming the welds are unsafe. What we are claiming is that the quality assurance pertaining to the welding hasn't succeeded, which means establishing adequate contidence.

I would like for the NRC staff to not group their response to collectively vis-a-vis GANE and CPG. I began my statement, and I reiterate it, that violations occur. In an endeavor of this magnitude it is beyond belief that there are not going to be errors. I have no qualms with errors.

Interestingly enough, you know, it is human to commit errors. The fact that humans are involved in this means that there can be departures from mechanical like procedures and machine readable procedures which in fact circumscribe the ability to detect errors and to correct them. That is all I am saying. I am not saying that, look, there are four violations and it indicates their QA program has failed. So please don't make that grouping.

The other thing is that Mr. Trowbridge's response he just made a misstatement. He said our sole example of a failure in QA with regard to welding having to do with the radiographs of the heat affected zone.

I just bring to your attention the content of our basis, which in fact elaborates another instance which had to do with the welding of the containment during a

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light rain in which there was a procedural dispute between the local quality assurance officers and one who happened to be on site from the NRC.

Again, I am not trying to cite this as being in and of itself conclusive of a safety problem, but just correcting for the record Mr. Trowbridge's statement that we concerned ourselves exclusively with the heat affected zone radiographs, which is not true.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Is there anything further?

MR. TEPER: Yes, I would like to respond. I will agree that GANE is probing the fact that we went through these I&E reports and found violations that the NRC found that Georgia Power did not find.

In the search for confidence in safety related areas we had to go through thousands of documents. We didn't go through all of them, but there are certain documents such as intermemos and work-stop orders that Georgia Power has.

We believe that a hearing on quality assurance should be started so that during the discovery process we will be able to ask for the work-stop orders to see that Georgia Power's quality assurance has been working.

Work-stop orders usually come about when the company's own QA program does work.

Well, I have not been provided with work-stop

orders. I don't believe there has been a large-scale investigation into whether the problems that came up during work-stop orders have been resolved. That is impossible for the NRC or the intervenors to address because we don't have access to those documents.

That is why I believe quality assurance should be a subject of a hearing, as well as the fact that yes, there have been little violations found and maybe there have been other little violations that have not been found by the NRC staff. The fact that there are some that have escaped Georgia Power's attention, there might be others, and that is why, once again, the broad scope of our contention.

(Board conferring.)

JUDGE LINENBERGER: I feel compelled to make one comment here and I shant elaborate on it. I nope you will listen to it and do some homework.

I have heard several of you talk about a quality assurance program that violates the regs. I am not sure I know what that means, but if the word "regs" refers to the contents of a portion of that red and white book that is sitting in front of Mr. Perlis, if that is indeed what is being alluded to, or the brown and white book that GANE is holding, if that is what is being alluded to, that indeed portrays a serious lack of understanding of what

quality assurance is about.

I think it is incumbent upon the people who have discussed their concerns about the violation of regs being indicative of bad quality assurance to develop a better understanding of what quality assurance is about.

That is all I think is appropriate for me to say at this time.

JUDGE MARGULIES: If there is nothing further on the contention, we will take a recess until 11:30.

(Recess from 11:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.)

JUDGE MARGULIES: Back on the record.

MR. FOWLER: May I make one more statement that will maybe make clear what we are trying to get across about with our quality assurance contention?

JUDGE MARGULIES: Certainly.

MR. FOWLER: What we are doing here, the violation mentioned in our basis have been cited to show that CPG has no adequate assurance that the welds at Vogtle are safe and, therefore, that the quality assurance program at Vogtle is sate.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Thank you.

MR. TEPER: Mr. Chairman, GANE would also like to add that there is a change to GANE's Contention No. 8. There were three paragraphs that were going to be taken out and made into a new contention, GANE Contention 14, and it

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1 has to do with the backup diesel generator. I believe CPG has already turned that into the 3 Board and GANE will likewise remove the identical three 4 paragraphs from its Contention No. 8 and make it a whole 5 new contention. 6 JUDGE MARGULIES: Is there any objection on the 7 part of the applicant? 8 MR. TROWBRIDGE: None. Q JUDGE MARGULIES: How about staff? 10 MR. PERLIS: None. So that would then be CPG 14 11 and GANE 14? 12 MR. FOWLER: Yes. MR. TEPER: Right. 14 MR. PERLIS: That is tine. 15 MR. JOHNSON: Just one more housekeeping matter 16 from earlier in the day. We now have copies of the 17 statements that we were going to add to our request for 18 waiver and I can distribute them and explain what each is. 19 They include a motion that was passed yesterday ---20 JUDGE MARGULIES: why don't you distribute them 21 and then explain. 22 MR. JOHNSON: A good idea. 23 (Copies of the document were distributed to the 24 parties.)

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JUDGE MARGULIES: We should have three copies up

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MR. JOHNSON: What this includes is a motion that was passed unanimously yesterday by the Georgia Public Service Commission approving a study of the Georgia Power construction program as particularly relating to the need for plant. Their particular concern is whether the plant will eventually be allowed into the rate base which, as we described in the basis for our original contention, could have profound impacts on the company's ability to safely operate the plant.

Attached to that is a statement that was given by one of the Commissioners, and he signed a copy of the statement, the original which I have given to the Chairman, describing some of his concerns. his statement was agreed upon by a majority of the Commissioners there at that meerting just yesterday afternoon at about 5 o'clock.

Also I have given a notarized letter and attachments from the chief staff person for the Georgia Solar Coalition concerning the availability of solar and conservation measures and how much energy they could provide per household in Georgia.

If anyone has any questions on it, you can contact me today or at my office later.

MR. PERLIS: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman, may I ask
Mr. Johnson a question?

JUDGE MARGULIES: Sure.

MR. PERLIS: The first two pages of this document, they don't indicate whether it was passed. You say it was passed?

MR. JOHNSON: It was passed unanimously.

MR. PERLIS: Okay.

JUDGE MARGULIES: We go to proposed Concention 9. The concention has been altered.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: And our response has been altered.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Do you wish to change your response?

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Yes. I have a statement to make. This Contention 9 concerns applicant's proposal, which is now before the NRC, to make a design change in the plant which would make it unnecessary for Georgia Power Company to install pipe restraints of jet barriers around the primary loop piping. Applicant's proposal to the NRC was supported by a proprietary Westinghouse report justifying the change.

Based on last week's meeting with the petitioners we understand that they are skeptical of the change, but do not have enough information in the expurgated version of the Westinghouse report to know whether they object to the change or on what basis.

We agree that the expurgated version does not provide enough information. We have therefore proposed to petitioners that the full report will be turished to petitioners under a suitable proprietary agreement.

If after reviewing the report petitions decide within a reasonable time to file a contention opposing the change, we will not object to the new contention on timeliness grounds. We will let the Board know what happens and meanwhile suggest that the Board defer action on the present contention.

MR. FOWLER: I would like to ascribe to that and say that at first in Georgia Power's response to that contention they answered that applicant's proposal and letters to the Commission contain the same information as would an amendment to the FSAR, and petitioner's assertion that they have insufficient information is frivolous as a matter of law. This document that we were looking at was totally sanitized. We had no way or determining what it actually did say.

The applicant is required to provide this information in the FSAR and the PSAR. We didn't have access to the information and so lack of information was not at all frivolous and we need to see that document now.

JUDGE PARIS: Well, he has proposed to provide it to you under suitable arrangements.

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JUDGE MARGULIES: Do you object to the procedure?

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MR. JOHNSON: Our only concern is that certainly westinghouse has a right to safeguard proprietary information and we would certainly not disclose that. But we do have the concern that there may be information that that should be public information that is really not proprietary that is within that and we would like to keep open the possibility of at least having the Board review any information that we feel is not proprietary and determine if it could be publicly released rather than saying that we now agree that none of it will be released.

MR. MERLIN: I can give a specific example of that to help the Board understand. Again, the statement is that we do not want to divulge proprietary information, but the regulations require that a sufficient amount of information be made I assume public to understand the safe functioning of system.

I just wanted to demonstrate or to show an example of the information that we require. It is not of a proprietary nature which I suspect should be made public.

This, for example, is the page of the report from the Westinghouse study comparing the results of their model to empirical data.

Now my craining is in physics, and I did

Monica. It is hard for me to understand how the performance of a model, a very sopnisticated model with empirical data could be construed as being proprietary since there is no way for one to determine the basis of a small set of numbers and any significant details in the construction of a model.

It is those things where we disagree with the proposal of the applicant. Proprietary information needs to be protected, but information that should be in the public domain with regard to new design needs to be introduced into the public domain and this is just an example of one such requirement that we feel has to be circulated and understood by groups much larger than the petitioners at this hearing.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Would you describe what you handed up for the record.

MR. MERLIN: Yes, I would like to actually. It is difficult to describe and I might hold it up.

(Laughcer.)

This is from the Westinghouse report, the title of which I think everyone has. This is a justification of their novel design basis and this is a Figure 3 comparison, omitted, predictions with experimental results. This is one of several major elements of this document that were

sanitized or removed based upon a proprietary plan and it is not at all clear that, you know, we are not contending this system isn't safe, and that needs to be understood. We are saying that we have so little information on the functioning of this system that we can't even begin to make an assessment on the safety.

JUDGE PARIS: The reporter cannot reproduce what you are holding up on the record unless you describe it.

Describe it for her.

MR. MERLIN: Okay. It is labeled page 21. The caport citle is from the Westinghouse report on the circumferencial gipe breaks. It is labeled "Figure 3 Comparison on -- pracket, empty space, bracket -- Predictions with Experimental Results." The body of the page is empty.

MR. TEPER: GANE would like to make its statement on this contention where we also will agree to see the proprietary information.

It is our assumption that this novel design change will save the applicant millions of dollars in construction costs, the fact that they don't have to put these pipes, pasically pipe supports into the plant.

It is GANE's observation that Westinghouse has the ability to support the fact that the applicant doesn't need these pipe supports. We concend that it is a way of

70 saving the utility money because these plants are so 2 expensive and that Westinghouse can come up with any kind 3 of a example of why they might not need it, but we think it 1 is threatening the health and satety of the community. 5 JUDGE MARGULIES: Do you join in CPG's revision 6 of Contention 9? (Pause.) 8 MR. TEPER: Yes, we do. It is hard to determine

the appropriateness of a novel design when we don't have the information to determine it.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Does staff still feel that there is a contention there?

MR. PERLIS: In the absence of the proprietary document, the staff feels there is a contention. Since the document will be provided, we would suggest that the parties be given an appropriate time on the order of 30 days to examine the document and either submit a new contention which, it filed within 30 days, would be timely filed or to withdraw the contention if they are satisfied after seeing the Westinghouse information.

(Board conferring.)

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JUDGE MARGULIES: Mr. Trobridge, what sort of proprietary procession agreement are you looking for and it is something that the intervenors can agree to?

MR. TROWBRIDGE: They have not seen it yet. This

Westinghouse and the intervenors. I have just received a copy of the most recent agreement that was used I think in Byron and have not yet transmitted it or fixed it up so that it is suitable for this proceeding.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Does the agreement contain anything that in case of a dispute as to what should or shouldn't remain proprietary and how it should be resolved?

MR. TROWBRIDGE: I can't be sure in its present form whether it asks the intervenors to acknowledge that the information is proprietary. If it does, that will come out. I am not arguing the intervenors' right to dispute the appropriateness of the proprietary treatment of the information.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Are the intervenors satisfied with the procedure?

MR. FOWLER: We won't withdraw our contention. We will wait until receiving the document review and the document and then within 30 days either decide to amend our contention or withdraw the contention.

JUDGE MARGULIES: I think that is a reasonable approach. Do you agree?

MR. TEPER: GANE will also do the same.

JUDGE MARGULIES: And you do, too, Mr.

Trowbridge?

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Yes. 2 JUDGE MARGULIES: That brings us to proposed 3 CPG Contention 10. There has been no alteration in that 4 contention; is that correct? 5 MR. TROWBRIDGE: There is a small alteration in 6 our casponse again, Mr. Chairman. 7 JUDGE MARGULIES: Do you wish to go ahead with 8 your changed response? 0 MR. TROWBRIDGE: Yes. We treated this as a 10 collection of subconcentions and numbered chem, 11 incidentally, asking that these subcontentions be treated as individual concencions and not the broad statement at 12 13 one beginning. we objected to several of the subcontentions, 14 15 including subcontention 7 in our reply. 16 JUDGE MARGULIES: Could you give us the page. 17 MR. TROWBRIDGE: Yes, I am looking for it. 18 (Pause.) 19 MR. JOHNSON: 69. 20 MR. TROWBRIDGE: what is it? 21 MR. JOHNSON: 69. 22 MR. TROWBRIDGE: Seven had to do with hydrogen 23 recombiners. As a result of our meeting with the

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intervenors, we understand that what they mean by their

contention is that the hydrogen recombiners ought to be

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conditions, and it is not obvious from our FSAR that that is the case. So that we have withdrawn our objection to Subcontention 7 on that understanding.

I would like to say to the Board as to this and some of the other subcontentions that our reason for not objecting in cases where we think, and in fact our environmental qualification program complies exactly with what the intervenors would have us do, but we have not objected solely on the ground that that information was not available to them. It is not in the FSAR and there is not that level of detail about all of our environmental qualification methods.

were indeed tested under radiation conditions and we propose to furnish documentation to petitioners on this and proposely several other subcontentions showing that we have indeed done what they would have us do and, if they are satisfied, I hope they will withdraw the subcontention, but meanwhile we have allowed them.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Yes.

MR. DEUTSCH: I would like to address that.

JUDGE MARGULIES: who is speaking and for which

24 organization?

MR. DEUTSCH: Howard Deutsch for CPG. Naturally

report or anything that Georgia Power issued, we wouldn't know about it, and we still don't. We have never received any specific information that says that their testing program is not as outlined in the FSAR, which was issued, what, some six months ago.

So we on that basis concluded that their testing program and the equipment that was outlined as being environmentally qualified was as such in a major document that they issued recently.

of course we will look at whatever they have to say in the documentation that addresses these issues, but I think that beyond that there are some important questions here of why are these methods being changed so quickly at this point, and it must indicate that they have some grave doubts about their environmental qualifications program, the fact that there are changes that are not in the FSAR that are being done now.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: I said nothing about changes.

MR. DEUTSCH: What is that?

MR. TROWBRIDGE: I said nothing about changes in our methods. I said that the FSAR does not spell out in detail each of the methods for qualifying various pieces of equipment. We do have qualification packages for individual pieces of equipment and we do have documentation as to what

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the methods are, but that amount of detail just doesn't go into the FSAR, either into ours or into anybody else's.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Would it be appropriate to treat proposed Contention 10 in the same manner as proposed Concention 9?

MS. FOWLER: I think the change that Mr. Deutsch is referring to is that Georgia Power did let us know that the early Limitorque operators that they had failed, and these are now being replaced in the containment building. That is the changes in environmental qualifications that Mr. Deutsch is referring to, the changes that have occurred. We are just worried about these happening over and over again.

MR. DEUTSCH: I was led to believe at the premeeting that one of the reasons why weren't objecting to some of these is that some of the methods had been changed and that they were now complying with the type of test methods that I thought should be used. That was what in part I was led to believe at that meeting. So that there are substantial changes occurring in their qualification program at this time.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: I don't know of any changes in the method, and I am trying to think what it is that we discussed. We did tell you that the Limitorque valves inside containment were found not to be qualified and we

are replacing them. That much we did tell you, but I don't think we talked anything about changes in methods.

MR. DEUTSCH: I guess it is just a matter of what we are talking about, for example, the integrated dose versus dose rate considerations. That is not specified anywhere in the FSAR. It only specified the integrated dose. Nowhere that I saw does it mention that the dose rate is an important phenomena to consider.

Now I can't see why that would not be mentioned in the FSAR. That is supposed to be quite a comprehensive document. I mean it is some 25 or 30 volumes long, and why an important test method is not even mentioned, I only can assume that they are in the process of changing that to say that is now they are testing it. That was my basis for saying that.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Would it be appropriate to treat proposed Contention 10 in the same manner as proposed Contention 9?

MS. FOWLER: Yes, sir. There are some points, some of the environmental qualifications we are interested where no data is going to be supplied to us. So there are some issues that we really aren't talking to now, but if we can see that data or documentation, we will either decide to withdraw our contentions or let Georgia Power know that we are going to keep them in.

1 JUDGE MARGULIES: And you will do that within 30 days? 3 MS. FOWLER: Yes, sir. JUDGE MARGULIES: And how about GANE, do they 5 find that procedure acceptable? 6 MR. TEPER: Yes, we do. JUDGE MARGULIES: The staft? 8 MR. PERLIS: Well, Mr. Chairman, the staff in 9 its response originally responded to the contention as a 10 whole and not to 11 subcontentions. If there is going to be 11 a 30-day period, we would like the opportunity to respond to the 11 suocontentions as set out by the applicant, if 12 13 that is going to be how the contention will be handled. 14 JUDGE MARGULIES: Is there any objection to that 15 procedure, Mr. Trowbridge? 16 MR. TROWBRIDGE: would you mind stating again 17 what it is? 18 MR. PERLIS: Originally the staff opposed this contention on the grounds that it was just too broad and 19 20 vague and suggested that it be divided into specific subparts, and that it it did, certain portions of it might 21 be aumissible. 23 we would like the opportunity to go through the Il subconcentions that you have identified in writing and 24 25 just express our position on this and we can do that in a

very short period of time. 2 MR. TROWBRIDGE: I have no problem with that. 3 MR. PERLIS: We will get that to the petitions 4 well before the 30-day period runs. 5 (Board conterring.) 6 JUDGE MARGULIES: Will the intervenors approach the contention on the basis of the II subcontentions 8 outlined in applicant's response? MS. FCWLER: Yes, sir. 10 MR. TEPER: GANE also, Your Honor. 11 JUDGE MARGULIES: Thank you. (Board conferring.) 13 JUDGE MARGULIES: We next come to CPG's proposed 14 Contention 11. There has been an amendment. 15 MR. TROWBRIDGE: Mr. Chairman, we have objected to some subcontentions and we are still objecting to those 17 supcontentions. 18 JUDGE MARGULIES: Yes. 19 MR. FEIG: Mr. Chairman, do you have a time 20 proposed for breaking for lunch? 21 JUDGE MARGULIES: We were thinking about 22 recessing about 12:30. 23 MR. TEPER: Could GANE make the request that we 24 adjourn possibly within 10 minutes for scientific purposes.

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We have a scientific phenomena that I think members of the

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scientific would like to observe that is going to take place.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: Do you think the cloud cover might interfere with that scientific phenomenon?

(Laughter.)

JUDGE PARIS: As the environmental scientist on the Board, I wish to caution all of you not to look directly at the sun through anything. Either watch it on TV or make yourself a sunscope, a box with a pin hole in it with a light sheet of paper opposite the pin hole.

JUDGE MARGULIES: We can recess for lunch at this point. We will take a slightly longer than usual lunch so that the intervenors can have those document reproduced so we will be able to take them up following lunch.

We will recess until 1:30.

MR. TEPER: Thank you.

(Whereupon, at 12:35 p.m., the special prehearing conference recessed, to reconvene at 1:30 p.m. the same day.)

AFTERNOON SESSION

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(1:30 p.m.)

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JUDGE MARGULIES: Please come to order.

Mr. Teper, do you want to distribute those

MR. TEPER: GANE's letter is presently being

copied and it should be back in the room in 10 minutes.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Okay. It is the marter of the

letter ---

documents?

MR. TEPER: It was referring to quality

assurance.

MR. FEIG: To No. 2 and No. 7.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Right.

MR. FEIG: That is being typed up and should be here any second.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Okay, we will next move on to CPG proposed Contention 11. There has been an amendment. Do you wish to be heard?

MS. FOWLER: Yes, sir. We amended the language of the concention and narrowed it. We are just considering the Vogtle steam generator system as constituting an undue risk to public health. Our basis remains the same.

Is there anything you would like to add? MR. DEUTSCH: Well, there is not too much in Georgia Power's response to this. They mention that they

nave certain ways of treating the water that are addressed in their FSAR, and I agree with that.

But also in their FSAR they say some other things that still lead us to have doubts about the steam generator and specifically corrosion. For example, it says in the FSAR 5.4.2-9 "Recent operating experience, however, has revealed areas on secondary surfaces where localized corrosion rates are significantly greater than low general corrosion rates."

So in the area both intergranular stress corrosion and tube wall thinning were experienced in localized areas. Though they are saying that some of our contentions based on intergranular stress corrosion or thinning or tubes are not valid in general, they do admit in their FSAR that in certain localized cases that there is thinning and intergranular stress corrosion. So this we still feel is an area of concern.

They specifically said that most of the problems that we talked about in terms of steam tube integrity were answered by their all volatile treatment of the water as opposed to phosphate treatment which severely exascerbates this problem.

However, they do say in the FSAR again that the ATV, the all volatile treatment, should minimize the possibility for reoccurrence of intergranular stress

corrosion. So going on the basis of what they are saying about this specific plant and their specific types of treatment, I think there are still some areas of concern.

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In our contention we do talk about what would be some of the risks if a steam tube rupture accident did occur, and it has been calculated, and we have the documentation in here, that under the present conditions that the steam tube rupture accident could possibly simulate a loss of coolant accident and lead to attendant problems.

So I think we still feel that this potentially is a major problem and there are specific things at Plant Vogtle that are not completely addressed in the FSAR.

JUDGE PARIS: Mr. Deutsch, were these problems that you were citing, you were paraphrasing the FSAR for plant Vogtle?

MR. DEUTSCH: Yes.

JUDGE PARIS: Are these corrosion problems occurring in the steam generators there now?

MR. DEUTSCH: It is not in operation as far as I know.

JUDGE PARIS: Well, as you were speaking it sounded as chough differential corrosion was occurring at different places in the steam generator. You were not talking about plant Vogtle.

MR. DEUTSCH: Well, I was quoting directly from the FSAR.

JUDGE PARIS: what is it talking about?

MR. DEUTSCH: I can't tell exactly what they are calking about, but presumably it is recent operating experience of plants that would be very similar or exactly similar to what they are planning on building at other plants.

JUDGE PARIS: At other plants. I see. Thank you.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Mr. Teper, do you agree to the
amendment? Do you concur in the amendment of the
concention?

MR. TEPER: I believe there was an agreed change to the contention at the last meeting. We cited specifically the regulation that we believe the applicant is in violation of, that being 10 CFR 50.34B, 50 Appendix A and 50 Appendix B.

JUDGE MARGULIES: So you do concur in the amendment and that is the way it presently reads, applicant's failure to consider defects in the Vogtle steam generator system constitutes an undue risk to public health and safety in violation of 10 CFR 50.34B, 50 Appendix A and 50 Appendix B?

MR. TEPER: Yes, sir.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Do you wish to be heard, Mr.

Trowbriage?

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Mr. Chairman, I would like the privilege of coming back to this. We heard nothing about this in our meeting with the intervenors, but I would like an opportunity to examine it and perhaps discuss with the engineers here the passages cited in the FSAR.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Mr. Perlis.

MR. PERLIS: The starf originally objected to this contention primarily on the grounds that it wasn't tocused on the Vogtle facility.

For the first time now we have now heard information that appear to focus it on the Vogtle facility. Unlike Mr. Trowbridge, I don't have the engineering support here coday and I don't think I will be in a position to respond to the new information we have heard at this point.

JUDGE MARGULIES: When do you believe you will be able to respond?

MR. PERLIS: When I see the transcript or it I could get something in writing from CPG I imagine within a week.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Is there any objection to that procedure?

MR. TROWBRIDGE: In that case may we also respond.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Is there any objection to

giving applicant 10 days to respond?

MS. FOWLER: No, sir.

JUDGE MARGULIES: There being no objection, that procedure will be followed in regard to proposed Concention 11.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: Mr. Perlis, before we move on, however, the earlier as well as the most recent version of Concention 11, if I am not mistaken, alleges that the staff's position was that it had not concluded whether a proposed revision would have an overall net increase or decrease in plant risk.

The most recent allegation with respect to the staff's position occurs on page 29 of the ---

MR. PERLIS: Page 25.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: I am sorry. I was looking at the first one, the 4/11/84 submittal, and page 25, yes, of the recent one.

Now my question to you is, first, is that quotation, "The revision would have no overall net increase or decrease in plant risk," is that properly attributable to the staff and, if it is, does that mean the staff has not had time to reach a decision or does it mean that the staff has given studied consideration to the matter and declines to take a position? I cannot tell from intervenor's characterization what is the staff position

there.

MR. PERLIS: If I might have a moment.

(Pause.)

MR. PERLIS: We believe the last sentence is correct, ... the staff did not conclude whether the revision would have an overall increase or decrease in plant risk. We are not sure about the rest of it and, if you like, we will respond to that as well in our next filing.

I can't answer your question at this point.

MR. MILLER: But the staff has had enough time to look at it and the staff has reached a conclusion on it.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: All right, fine. I guess that is really all I want to know. You are not just saying you haven't had enought time so you are not ready.

MS. MILLER: No, that is not the case.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: It has been looked at and a position has been taken.

MS. MILLER: Yes.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: Thank you. That is all I need to know for now.

(Board conterring.)

JUDGE MARGULIES: We next move on to proposed Contention 12. There has been an amendment. Hydrochloric acid has been eliminated and chlorine gas has been

substituteu.

Do you wish to comment on that, Ms. Fowler?

MS. FOWLER: The basis remains the same.

MR. JOHNSON: Except for that change.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Mr. Teper, do you concur in this change? Do you join in this change?

MR. TEPER: Yes. GANE would like to replace every cite that says hydrochloric acid with chlorine gas.

We would like to point out at this time that for many years the economy of Burke County was based on farming and we think that any addition of salt releases into the atmosphere which eventually deposits onto the surcounding farm community will have a great impact on the ability of the farmers in the area to make a living.

As it is, I believe they are having a great deal of trouble. As soon as the construction stops at Vogtle, that county is going to be in a lot of trouble. So we think the salt issue needs to be an issue for further research.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: well, the Board hears your words, and to paraphrase what you said, "any addition," and I will switch that to any additional amount of salt deposition will have a serious effect on the farmers.

Now I really have to question whether you meant that literally. Are you saying that one pound per acre per

year of additional salt deposition is going to be devastating to the farmers, or are you saying that a hundred pounds per acre per year is going to be devastating? When you say any additional amount, that leaves it very vague and makes it difficult to be considered as a pasis for a contention.

MR. FEPER: I would have to turn that over to the people who worked on that specific contention. We have somebody here who does know quite a bit about that. I believe he works with CPG.

MS. FOWLER: I think Mr. Deutsch can clear that up.

MR. DEUTSCH: I don't know if I can clear it up completely, but one thing that bothered us considerably was that at the construction stage hearing there was a calculation entered in of 305 pounds per acre per year within a certain radius of the plant, and actually we agree that that decreases as you go out farther and farther.

But then at the same time it was stated by Georgia Power that because of additional engineering data and new models for salt drift emissions that they revised that estimate from 305 pounds down to about 20 to 30. I mean I don't know exactly what they did and it wasn't stated exactly now they did that, but that seems like a very unusual situation where just with a new model you have

a power of ten difference or so in the amount of contaminant.

So it seemed like a very drastic revision, and recently I have been intormed by NRC that they are considering at least the possibility that that calculation might have to be redone.

MS. FOWLER: Which calculation?

MR. DEUTSCH: The 305 pound versus the 20 or 30 pounds per acre per year.

MS. MILLER: Weil, the NRC staff was questioning the 305 pound value.

MR. DEUTSCH: One other thing. At that time at least it was admitted that salt drift emissions of that order of magnitude or about 300 pounds per acre per year could possibly be a very serious environmental problem.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Mr. Chairman, let me deal first with the salt and then the chlorine gas.

With respect to the salt it is correct that at the construction permit stage that a little over 300 pounds was the calculation. It was taken into account at the construction permit stage as an environmental impact and there are no circumstances other than a reduction in one estimate which would justify reopening environmental issues at the operating license stage.

We have cited in our response a number of cases

for the proposition that unless there is new significant information at the operating license scage, you don't readdress environmental impacts addressed at the construction permit scage.

As to the chlorine gas, our response of course was based on the original version of hydrochloric acid, but basically our response now to chlorine gas would be the same, that the contention defies the fundamental laws of chemistry.

As is indicated in our environmental report, we will have about 10 parts per million of chlorine in the cooling tower system and one part out of that ten will be free or available chlorine and the other will be a chlorine compound.

colorine is readily soluable in water and the sacuration point is something in the order of 3,750 parts per million. There would be no chlorine gas generated and released until that saturation point was reached, and we are talking about that 1 in 375 of the saturation level.

MR. DEUTSCH: I would like to respond to that.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Okay, go ahead.

Are you finished, Mr. Trowbridge?

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Yes.

MR. DEUTSCH: With that type of argument there would be no salt released either because salt is very

soluable in water and has a much, much lower vapor pressure than chlorine. 3 So simply stating that it wasn't at the 1 saturation point is not sufficient. It is known that salt is released, and simply that type of argument in itself is not sufficient to say that ---6 MR. TROWBRIDGE: The contention here is chlorine 8 gas. 9 MR. DEUTSCH: I said based on our arguments 10 there would be no salt released either. 11 MR. TROWBRIDGE: I did not talk about a salt gas. Salt would very well be in the drift and there will be 13 some. MR. DEUTSCH: Well, there could be chlorine in 14 15 the drift, too. 16 MR. TROWBRIDGE: That may be, but that is not 17 your contention. 18 JUDGE MARGULIES: Mr. Perlis. MR. TROWBRIDGE: Let's see if we can't define 19 the issue a little bit better here. Your contention talks 20 21 of the release of chlorine gas. 22 MR. MERLIN: He is saying your physical argument 23 is not correct, and he is just saying that on the pasis of 24 a similar argument then salt shouldn't be a problem. He is

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not saying that salt is the issue. He is saying that based

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92 upon your argument that even salt wouldn't be a problem, 2 but clearly it is and so your argument is at fault. I think 3 that is the statement. 4 MR. DEUTSCH: There is a potential for elemental 5 chlorine to be released. If you live around the plants ---6 MR. TROWBRIDGE: The difference between this is 7 whether we are talking about ---8 JUDGE MARGULIES: You are creating a problem for the reporter. Just one at a time now. 10 Go anead, Mr. Troworidge. 11 MR. TROWBRIDGE: The difference between this is the difference between elemental chlorine and chlorine gas. 12 13 MR. DEUTSCH: Well, I don't see that that is a big issue myself. If there is chloring there, there is 14 15 colorine there. They are both the same element and we are 16 talking about whether it is dissolved in some water mist or

MR. TROWBRIDGE: I am sorry. It was hydrochloric acid before and then it was chlorine gas and now are you making a third change?

whether it is totally free of water or what is the

difference?

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MR. DEUTSCH: No. I am not trying to change it to a new chemical form. Chlorine is colorine. Whether you want to call it chlorine gas or elemental chlorine it is still chlorine. I am not talking about some new element or

new compound. What is the distinction? I fail to see the distinction.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: May I have a moment please.
(Pause.)

JUDGE MARGULIES: Go anead, Mr. Troworidge.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Let me try again. We still contenu that CL2, chlorine gas, will not be released. There will be in the drift some small amount of chlorine compound. I understand that HOCl is the likely --
MR. DEUTSCH: Hyperchlorous acid.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: This phenomenon was addressed at the construction permit stage again. It is covered in the FES at the construction permit stage and with the staff saying I believe that the effect would be insignificant.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Can the staff give us any assitance?

MR. PERLIS: Very doubtfully. The only point the staff would like to make on this contention is that Section 51.23E of our regulations sees forth the requirements for covering material in an operating license environmental report.

The relevant requirement in this case is that it has to be information that was not considered at the construction permit stage. Both the salt and the chlorine gas appears to have been covered at the construction permit

stage.

In that case, unless there are some significant new information, it need not, and indeed should not be covered again.

It is our position that these items both were covered earlier, that no significant new information has been presented and that they should not be covered again.

JUDGE MARGULIES: The intervenor indicated that the staff was going to make a recalculation. Is that so?

MR. PERLIS: The staff I believe is looking at

another calculation, but again Mr. Trowbridge was correct that that calculation involved whether the 305 figure, which was available at the construction permit stage is too great or not.

Insofar as it is relevant to this contention, any figure less than 305 could not possibly involve a greater harm to the environment, and the staff recalculation, as I understand it, is directed towards whether the 305 figure is overly conservative.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Is there anything further on this contention?

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Let me give the citations for the Board. We have addressed the questions to the staff on the calculation of the salt deposition in Amendment No. 3 to our environmental report at the operating license stage.

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The section of the FES to which I referred shortly ago about chlorine levels in the drift is Section 5.5 of the construction permit stage FES at page 5:15 and which concludes that "The staff expects that the effects of deposition of drift on the surrounding terrestrial ecosystems will be negligible.

JUDGE MARGULIES: We next go to proposed Contention 13. It appears to be identical with that previous filed; is that correct?

MS. FOWLER: Yes, sir, and we agree that we are going to wait on the emergency plans of the counties involved and CPG will have 30 days in which to respond to those emergency plans. GPC won't contest our filling that contention and amending our contention as a late filed contention.

JUDGE MARGULIES: And what is staff's position?

MR. PERLIS: The staff has no objection to that,

but I think we should clarify what document is going to be

the triggering point for filling contentions. As I

understand it, we are talking about off-site emergency

plans and frequently there are a number of different drafts

of off-site emergency plans that are produced.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: We have a target, which has been discussed with the staff for revising our emergency plans. The target date I believe is October 1. That is the

document I am talking about and the next time we put in a considerable revision of the section on emergency planning. JUDGE LINENBERGER: Excuse me, sir, but that document would address on-site emergency, right? MR. TROWBRIDGE: It may address on site and it will also address off site. JUDGE LINENBERGER: It will also address off site. Thank you. MR. PERLIS: I don't have any objection

MR. PERLIS: I don't have any objection necessarily to that idea. It did strike me upon looking at the contention that much of it deals with information that I would expect to be available in off-site emergency plans. I don't know what detail it is going to be covered in in the on-site plans.

As I recall, this contention was dealing with the actual emergency response of Burke and Richmond Counties.

JUDGE MARGULIES: That is what the letter says of May 27th, that CPG would refile Contention 13 upon the release of Richmond and Burke County emergency plans expected sometime this fall. So you and Mr. Trowbridge are talking about two different documents.

JUDGE PARIS: Ms. Fowler, does your contention relate to off-site emergency plans only?

MS. FOWLER: Yes, sir, it is on site.

1 JUDGE PARIS: All right. Thank you. 2 MR. TROWBRIDGE: Our October 1 document will 3 describe, as I understand, the county plans. 1 MS. FOWLER: When we talked last week, they 5 understood that we were talking about off site, and that 6 would be available to us on October 1 and that we would have 30 days in which to respond. There was some disagreement on the part of the 8 9 stact. I think at first there was a suggestion by the NRC 10 staff that we might want to wait until the NRC had had a change to comment on that. I don't know. Are you aware of 11 cnat? 12 13 MS. MILLER: Thac wasn't a suggestion. That was a comment that was thrown out for discussion. It was a 14 15 neutral type of comment? 16 MS. FOWLER: How do you feel about that, Mr. 17 Perlis? 18 MR. PERLIS: I wasn't at the meeting last week which puts me at a disadvantage. As long as the off-site 19 20 plans will be covered in the October 1 submittal, I think 21 that would be sufficient. I just don't want to get to October 1st and find out that not enough information is

We certainly have no objection to deferring the off-site emergency planning issues until something is

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available then.

1	available on off-site planning. If it will be in the
2	October 1st document, then I think that is the best way to
3	proceed.
4	JUDGE MARGULIES: We will look for the
5	information to be in the October 1st document.
6	MR. TROWBRIDGE: That is a target date.
7	JUDGE MARGULIES: Yes.
8	MR. TROWBRIDGE: Of course, if that date should
9	slip at all, then the 30 days.
10	JUDGE MARGULIES: Certainly.
11	MR. TEPER: GANE also eagerly awaits this
12	document.
13	JUDGE MARGULIES: we next come to proposed
14	Contention 14 in which GANE and CPG both concur.
15	MS. FOWLER: Yes, sir. What we did here is I
16	chink we originally included TDI in our discussion of
17	quality assurance. So we took that out and made a separate
18	contention of it. I understand that Georgia Power is not
19	going to contest it.
20	MR. TROWBRIDGE: That is correct. We have no
21	objection to the contention.
22	JUDGE MARGULIES: Mr. Perlis, do you wish to be
23	heari?
24	MR. PERLIS: Yes. The staff has no objection to
25	chat contention.

1 JUDGE MARGULIES: Mr. Teper, do you have those 2 documents to distribute now? 3 MR. TEPER: Sne is still typing somewhere. We 1 had to find a typewriter. 5 (Board conferring.) 6 JUDGE MARGULIES: Did you also have another document which amended a contention? MR. TEPER: Yes. We had a letter to an amendment 8 9 to Contention 8 on quality assurance. 10 JUDGE MARGULIES: Well, that is something also 11 chat we should have distributed before this session is 12 over. 13 MR. TEPER: Right. That is being copied and also two other contention amendments. We now have GANE I through 14 15 4 I believe to address. 16 (Pause.) 17 JUDGE MARGULIES: We will next proceed with 18 GANE's proposed Contention No. 1. Mr. Teper, having reviewed applicant's and 19 20 intervenor's response, do you wish to change or add anything to your proposed contention? 21 (Pause.) 22 MR. TEPER: No, we do noc. There are no changes. 23 24 (Board conferring.) JUDGE LINENBERGER: The Board would like to

inquire of GANE a clarification with respect to the intent 2 of GANE 1 or the scope of GANE 1. The Board sees the 3 possibility of two separable topics being addressed in GANE 1, one topic dealing with wnether there has been a proper 5 quantification of radioactive releases and the other topic 6 being whether there has been a proper interpretation of the

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topics.

is only one, which one?

The Board specifically asks GANE at this point what is the scope of their contention with respect to whether to include one or both of those topics and, if it

impact of those releases. Those are indeed separable

MR. TEPER: GANE maintains that we question the accuracy of the expected releases of radionuclides into the environment that the applicant has determined in their FSAR. We also question the potential effects of these radio nuclides that will be released into the environment. If the Board so pleases, GANE would be willing to make it more than one contention.

We thought for the hearing process we at the time thought it would be best to put these two together.

MR. FEIG: we are looking at all the statistics and trying to assess these for ourselves. We don't have the statt and the engineering and the scientific qualitications, I guess you could say, to really assess

this kind of data and we have made every effect that we could through volunteers and doing what we could to assess the numbers that are available.

From our readings and from our own assessments it just seems that there are levels that are in question. We feel that the questionable levels quantitatively have perhaps serious impacts and I think that one definitely has something to do with the other. I think they do work together in this particular contention.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: GANE has said two chings.

One that proposes Contention I challenges the quantitative determine of the amount of releases as well as challenging the impact of those releases.

GANE has further said that it is willing to split the contention into two parts, and the Board sees no reason for making two contentions out of it.

Finally, whereas the Board appreciates having the matter clarified as to the scope of the contention, I must say that this Board member has a real problem finding how the discussion of the basis for this contention really shores it up enough to make anything admissible out of it.

I don't see any place where your worries about either one or these topics has any meat on the bones that would make your worries applicable to the Vogtle plant.

The Board would really like to hear why you

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think what you have written justifies our favorably ruling on the admissibility of this contention. We are having a problem seeing that.

I mean really tell us why in terms of specifics that relate to Vogtle and don't give us vague statements of John Gortman, vague statements about cesium levels at other places and statements about things that are not explicitly, to your knowledge, applicable to Vogele.

MR. FEIG: It is apparent that Vogtle is not operating and we have to assess these numbers as relating what other information is available and most of that information to us relates to other facilities.

Let us take just a second here and we are going to look at some of these things in particular and see if we can get some more specifics for you.

(Pausa.)

MR. TEPER: GANE contends that because of the plant specific geographic location approximate to other nuclear facilities that the potential damage from a radionuclide release from Vogtle is cumulative, being that the fact that a certain facility across the river releases amounts of tritium ---

JUDGE LINENBERGER: Excuse me, sir, but that is explicitly covered or discussed in your Contention 2. Let's stick with Concention 1 nere for right now. We don't want

to press you too far. I just didn't see how you have come to grips with Vogtle related matters, but I am perhaps pressing fartner than is justified at this time.

I will leave this up to the Chairman, but maybe he wants to go now to the applicant's position on this.

JUDGE MARGULIES: I will give the representative of GANE a chance to complete his statement.

MR. TEPER: Okay. To finalize what we stated in our basis for the contention, we stated that the cumulative effects of both terrestrial and other living creatures in the Vogtle area are affected by the postulated releases from Plant Vogtle and we don't believe the applicants stated specifically enough what the impact from the Vogtle releases will do to that which is living near the plant.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Mr Troworidge.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Mr. Chairman, this is one of the more frustrating contentions. Between the FSAR and our environmental report we have provided in great detail our estimates of releases, our estimates of the doses, including various food and other pathways. We have tables comparing those doses with Part 20 and with Appendix I, and we were not told one word of what is wrong with those calculations or those doses.

Now taking the other side of the health effects, it is not customary nor required by the NRC

regulations for applicants to convert doses into health effects. That is normally done by the staff as required by the regulations in their FES.

But in this particular case we are talking about an FES at the operating license stage. The staff did consider health effects at the construction permit stage.

No one has suggested that there is a significant change since the construction permit, and I see no reason why the staff need reconsider health effects at this point.

Certainly, however, the complaint is that we haven't done so and I suggest that the regulations do not require it.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Mr. Perlis.

MR. PERLIS: The only thing I would add to that is in terms of the assessment of the impacts. It is not clear to me whether the intervenors are challenging the Commission's regulations ---

JUDGE MARGULIES: would you use the microphone.

Mr. Teper is having some difficulty.

MR. PERLIS: It is not clear to me whether the intervenors are challenging the Commission's regulations which do set out limits in both Part 20 and Appendix I to Part 50.

I think if they are not challening the quantification and the quantifications call within the

Commission's regulations, then by definition they are challenging the regulations and that is not permitted in an operating license hearing.

MR. TEPER: Is it GANE's understanding that the petitioner, Georgia Power, does not have to worry about the health effects of the radioactive releases from the plant?

MR. TROWBRIDGE: If you are trying to quote that Georgia Power is unconcerned with doses or radioactive releases, that is an incorrect statement.

I am saying that the regulations are quite specific for a very good reason. We are supposed to calculate releases and doses for a specific plant at a specific location and we do that.

Now the health effects are generic for all plants and such and such a dose has such and such potential health effect and it doesn't make any difference whether it is this plant or another. So that is left by the regulations for the staff to fill in and they do it on a consistent basis for all plants.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: By the way, Mr. Perlis, this is a topic that in one form or another we presume will be addressed in the FES.

MR. PERLIS: Absolutely, yes.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: Analogous to your projection this morning of a publication date for the SER, can you

1 anticipate a publication date for the FES? 2 MR. PERLIS: The draft environmental statement 3 should be issued, September 26, 1984 is the current date. 1 Then of course, the NRC will receive comments, address 5 those comments and the final environmental statement is 6 scheduled tor March 26th, 1985. 7 JUDGE PARIS: Mr. Perlis, do you know if that document will consider the cumulative effects of Vogela 8 9 releases and Savannah River project releases? 10 MR. PERLIS: I can't answer that at this point. 11 I just don't know. JUDGE PARIS: Do you know if the cumulative 12 13 effect from the project Vogtle plant and SRP was considered 14 at the construction permit stage? 15 MR. PERLIS: I believe it was. 16 JUDGE LINENBERGER: Can somebody verify for the 17 Board, not opinion, but indeed verification, that at the 18 time of the Vogtle CP hearing was the "L" reactor in 19 operation? 20 MR. TROWBRIDGE: No. 21 MR. JOHNSON: No, it was not. That is not one of our contentions, but the "L" reactor has been shut down 22 23 since the late 60's. JUDGE LINENBERGER: Okay. Thank you. 24

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MR. TEPER: I chink maybe to clarify this issue

a little bit, if we move to GANE Contention No. 2 maybe we might be able to deal with this.

A lot of the concern expressed by GANE relating to radioactive releases and effects on pregnant women and on the dairy industry in the area, I think it can be addressed also in GANE No. 2. So we will see.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Are you ready to address GANE No. 2.

MR. TEPER: Yes, we are.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Do you have the documents? I am beginning to sound like a broken record.

MR. TEPER: I am sorry about that.

(Pause while the documents are distributed.)

MR. FEIG: I would like to add to GANE's pasis for its contention in Concention 2. First of all, a letter to Dixie Lee Ray dated April 16th, 1974, she was the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, from W. R. Stratton, Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, pages 2 and 3, and this quotes:

"Proximity of the Atomic Energy Commission's Savannah River plant and the Barnwell Nuclear Fuel Plant makes it important to have effective emergency arrangements to deal with unusual circumstances that may be of interrated safety significance to the three plants.

"The applicant has indicated that he will

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establish an emergency plan in cooperation with other nuclear installations to ensure emergency response demanded by events in the immediate area.

Consideration should be given by the Atomic Energy Commission to periodic evaluation of the combined coutine liquid and airborne cadionuclide releases from these two plants and the Vogtle Plant as they may affect the health and safety of the public."

The main reason that we bring that up at this time is because we feel that this is a very important issue, the fact that the Savannah River plant exists in close proximity to Plant Vogtle and that there are some very serious questions about the releases, the regular unannounced releases of radioactive materials into the air and into the water and the environment around the Savannah River plant.

We have someone else with us today, Dr. William Lawless. He can come up and also speak to some of these issues.

JUDGE MARGULIES: We do have the letter from Mr. Lawless to Mr. Feig of May 29th, 1984, and would it add anything to what is contained in that letter?

MR. FEIG: Right, and I wonder if you have any questions. If you would like to ask him some questions about the cumulative effect, he could up and speak to

those.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Well, give us an opportunity to read the documentation.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: But perfore we get into that subject, let's get back to the topic you were just discussing, namely, correspondence with ACRS and AEC in which ACRS points out the importance or AEC making certain evaluations and comparisons. Let us now go from that letter to the statement of your contention in which you challenge that the applicant has tailed to make certain evaluations and comparisons.

Nov do you cite the ACRS to AEC letter as a pasis for placing certain responsibility on the applicant, whereas that letter really talks about that responsibility being placed on AEC, or what is the nexus from that letter and your Concention 2 where they are addressed to two different parties in terms of responsibilities?

MR. FEIG: We are tairly convinced that the applicant has not had, or they do not have information available to them. At the time of the FSAR they did not have it available to make an assessment of the total cumulative impacts of both facilities.

New information has become available, some of which is included in the new "L" reactor environmental imagest scatement which has just come out I think in the

last week, as well as information that was withheld in secret documents at the Savannah River plant and perhaps even dated as far back as 1977 or '76 that have just been made available to the public recently.

So a lot of this information we feel is very perfinent and has not been assessed by Georgia Power and it could not have been assessed. It is our opinion that it is something that must be litigated or at least a special hearing must be heard to determine what kind of impacts if any releases from Plant Vogtle occur.

As we use for an example, if there were an accident at both facilities, who is to determine whose is putting what into the air at the same time, and that situation must be assessed.

JUDGE PARIS: Is this new information on celeases that has become available since the construction permit state for Vogtle?

MR. FEIG: Yes.

JUDGE PARIS: Does it indicate that the releases from SRP are greater than those estimated at the time of the construction permit for Voytle?

MR. FEIG: Yes.

(Board conferring.)

MR. FEIG: Mr. Chairman?

JUDGE MARGULIES: Yes.

MR. FEIG: I believe Mr. Lawless can respond to some of your questions pertaining to earlier studies of the SRP.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Let's take a short period of time to read the distribution and then we will get into it.

Let's take a ten-minute recess.

(Recess.)

JUDGE MARGULIES: Back on the record.

Do you wish to respond, Mr. Trowbridge, and we would appreciate you giving your comments on whether there is new information and, if you can, what that new information shows or how it pertains to your response.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: All right. This is Contention 2 we are on now. I will indicate the extent of new information, but I do want to respond in part to Dr. Linenberger.

I think, Dr. Lininberger, that you are quite correct that the regulations do not place on applicants the responsibility for the cumulative effects. The fact is we addressed them. At the construction permit scage we addressed the cumulative effects taking into account Savannah River and other nearby facilities based on annual reports, based on the Barnwell environmental statement and based on any other information we could get about the releases from Savannah River.

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The cumulative effects were also covered by the staff in its FES and the word was insignificant or negligible, but in any event it was a very small cumulative impact. And going back to my thesis, except for new circumstances, it would not be necessary to repeat that cumulative effect at the OL stage.

There is a new circumstance perhaps in that the "L" reactor was proposed to reopen and it was closed at the time of our construction permit, although some of the data that we used went back to periods when the "L" reactor was in operation, some of the materials we used in estimating the impacts from Savannah River.

with respect to the reopening of the "L" reactor and treating that for the moment as a significant new circumstance, it was our suggestion, our thesis and our response that this is a proposal that comes after the Vogtle proposal and is one in which DOE rather than NRC should take up the question of cumulative effects.

I don't think that is the only possible answer to this question. I think, although Mr. Perlis indicated he didn't know what the staff was going to do, that it would be quite possible for the staff to discuss cumulative effects again, including the "L" reactor, in its OL, but it ought to do so simply by referencing the DOE FES.

Consistent with CEQ regulations in case law,

DOE is the obvious lead agency. They obviously have information that we don't have, particularly some of the classified, and I think under established case law it is quite proper for the NRC to rely on any new impacts which DOE attributes to the "L" reactor, and that we ought not to be litigating Savannah River releases in this proceeding.

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I should add, as GANE has already pointed out, that we now do have a final environmenal statement from DOE on the "L" reactor and it does indeed cover cumulative effects. Section 5.2 of that FES had cumulative impacts and covers Savannah River and Vogcle and other potential tacilities in the area. They do have cumulative impacts and they are not large.

I thought I heard, I think it was Mr. Teper, say that they have come out with higher cumulative impacts than were estimated in the staff FES at the time of our construction permit. I think on balance that is not correct. I think there is a higher tritium estimate and other estimates are lower.

MR. TEPER: Mr. Chairman, I have just heard a number of responses to our contention. Part of that response was something to do with maybe DOE ought to be looking into cumulative effects.

wants to play ping pong with this issue, but the fact is

Savannah River plant without containment ouildings. These are not your commercial reactors and this is a whole different ball game.

I don't know it NRC wants to leave it for DOE to worry about and DOE leave it for the NRC, and the people who end up worry about it are the folks who live around the plant or down river, the people who eat the fish and the people who drink the milk.

The Department of Energy didn't even want to do an environmental impact statement at the beginning. Every politician it seems like in Georgia and South Carolina had to scream bloody murder just to get them to do an environmental impact statement. It was a court order.

Since 1974 whenever the initial construction application was put in there has been all kinds of intoramtion that has come out about accidental releases that, to applicant's credit, there is no way they could have had that information at that time.

I just think to put the public at ease and to let the NRC or everybody know what is happening with cumulative effects there has to be further inquiry into this and there seems no question to the credibility of this.

MR. FEIG: There is one other point I would like

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to make.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: Let me just stick to that point for a moment because I think I near you saying something very interesting, but, if I understand you correctly, very much outside of this Board's scope of responsibility.

I think what you are saying is things maybe all right because there has been an assessment by DOE, albeit court required, but sobeit, there is it. There has been assessment but the public doesn't understand this and, therefore, we had better litigate this question so the public does understand it.

Well, if there has been an assessment by DOE that gives satisfactory results, there is nothing to litigate and the Board has no responsibility to just make blanket public relations statements to the public about the status of things.

So it is not clear to me what point you are really making there.

MR. TEPER: I am afraid you missed the point on that one.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: Probably so.

MR. TEPER: The Department of Energy final environmental impact stacement only addressed the Department of Energy facility. It did not take into

consideration Vogtly.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: That is not correct.

MR. TEPER: If the Voycle nuclear plant is licensed, you are going to be adding potential releases to the releases already from the Savannah River plant.

JUDGE MARGULIES: I don't think Mr. Teper is asking us to make an independent evaluation of the DOE facility separate and apart from this proceeding.

MR. PERLIS: Mr. Chairman, may I be heard on this matter?

JUDGE MARGULIES: Certainly.

MR. PERLIS: It seems to me that there is only one possible contention that can come out of this area and I don't think we have it here. The only new information that I am aware of is the "L" reactor.

If the cumulative effects contention is to be a valid one, it must allege that when you take the Savannah River and the "L" reactor and whatever other reactors that there are in this area other than Vogtle you have "X" impact. With Vogtle you will have some greater impact, and it is that incremental impact from the Vogtle facility which will cause some harm.

Fortunately or unfortunately, there are many tigures available dealing with the releases from Vogtle, from Savannah River and from the "L" reactor.

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If in fact GANE believes there will be some incremental narm from Voytle that is not present from the other reactors, this Board and this agency doesn't have licensing authority over the other reactors, and we have to acept them as a given for this hearing. The only thing this hearing can concern itself with is the operation of Vogtle.

The figures are out there. If it is believed that the cumulative figures will produce some harm, I think it was encumbent upon GANE to show the figures and explain what harm would flow from them and that just hasn't been done here.

MR. FEIG: At this time I would like to call Mr Lawless up here because he does have information that does state that there are secious impacts and that any addition perhaps, and I will let him speak to this, could have a serious impact on the environment.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Is there any objection?

MR. TROWBRIDGE: If Mr. Lawless can a provide further basis for this other than argue health effects on the merits, I am afraid we may stray from the purpose of this hearing.

May I again correct Mr. Teper. The Savannah River "L" reactor FES does indeed consider the cumulative impacts, including the Vogtle facility.

MR. TEPER: May we bring Mr. Lawless up at this

time?

JUDGE MARGULIES: Yes, you may. We are not interested in getting into the merits, but we would be interested to near as to whether there are additional impacts that were not figured in.

MR. TEPER: Mr. Lawless, could you introduce yourself and state the positions you have held.

MR. LAWLESS: My name is Phil Lawless and I am a professional engineer. I used to work at the Savannah River plant and I worked there for about six years and left in the middle of last year in August of 1983.

The issue, as I understand it, cumulative effects, is whether or not, according to the staff of the NRC, whether or not additional releases will add to an additional accumulation such that standards will be exceeded.

The published releases from the Savannan River plant indicate that doses at the plant boundary of the Savannah River plant will be rive to six percent of background, which in itself sounds very good.

But it is hard to understand all of the information that is in the EIS. For instance, whereas calculated releases are only five to six percent of background, that is to say calculated doses from the releases, at the plant center, the Savannah River plant

background average of 150 pica curies per milliliter, which is seven times the drinking water standard.

Now this is mostly from stack releases or airborne emissions that have settled onto the burial ground and have been picked up and monitoring wells, as opposed to actual tritium releases from waste in the burial ground. Actual tritium releases, for instance, in the burial ground isself go up to about 200,000 times the drinking water standard. So the background is different. Nonecheless, the background does exceed the drinking water standard.

Moving out from plant center to Parr Pond, which is a very large lake about two-thirds the distance from plant center, the average tritium concentration in the water is 27,000 pica curies per liter which is again in excess of the drinking water standard.

So even though releases at the plant boundary are five to six percent of background, it must be compared with measured amounts of radioactivity on the plant.

For instance, the releases are only calculated and they are releases that are considered to be equated into doses for the maximum hypothetical man or the maximum hypothetical individual uptake, whereas the plant center measurement and Parr Pond measurement are actual measurements and these are far in excess of the drinking

water standard.

so it appears that for the tritium releases alone at the plant boundary instead of providing a dose update of five to six percent of background, you may be providing a dose that is in excess of what should be allowed.

In addition to that, the Savannah River, and this is a quote that I will provide that is coming out of the "L" EIS from CTS, the Savannah River plant off-plant effluent releases from cesium discharges into the downstream swampland range, and this is the quote, "range from 42 to 670 millirem per year for constant exposures," and the off-plant exposures are supposed to be held to 25 millirem per year or less.

Then from a different source, there were found on the plant boundary, the northwest boundary in 1982 five turtles with a maximum uptake in one of the turtles at 20,000 pica curies of strontium 90.

So the Savannah River plant statement that the calculated releases result in a maximum calculated dosage of only five to six percent of background or that which would result from background can be misleading.

The tritium excesses that are on plant right now, turtles that have been found on the plant boundary and cesium that is already off the plant and going downstream

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additional releases from any nuclear facility in the area will be detrimental to the health of individuals living in the area.

JUDGE MARGULIES: What was the source of that measurement?

MR. LAWLESS: Which one?

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JUDGE MARGULIES: The second measurement that you gave us.

MR. LAWLESS: Cesium or the tritium, the 150 pica curies per milliliter?

JUDGE MARGULIES: You named them.

MR. LAWLESS: Let me run through chem.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Okay.

MR. LAWLESS: 150 pica curies per milliliter, that is an internal plant report and I can give you the citation on that, and that has not been put into the public domain except recently and it is now publicly available in Aiken, South Carolina. The Parr Pond levels of 27,000 pica curies per liter is in the "L" EIS. The information about the turtles, as I understand it, will be in an upcoming DPSPU report. It has not been published, but it has been attested by the plant. It has been testified in court and the plant has attested to it. The calculated releases that are equal to that five or six percent background, that is

in the "L" reactor EIS also.

It seemed to me from reading the "L" EIS that most of the concerns that addressed plant Vogtle had to do with water drawdown and they dealt with the Tuscaloosa water usage more than anything else.

One of the things that is pointed out in the "L" EIS, but not very well, but with the supporting document it is pointed out very well, is that the Tuscaloosa Acquifer has been contaminated with chlorinated hydrocarbons. One of the concerns is that the contaminations from underneath the seepage basin will be moving in a southwesterly direction and then more westerly and outcropping perore the City of Augusta.

There is concern that additional wells cannot take some of these contaminations, and I don't know now far they will extend.

Unless you have any questions, those are the only comments I have.

(Board conferring.)

JUDGE MARGULIES: Thank you, Mr. Lawless.

MR. LAWLESS: Thank you.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Mr. Chairman, two quick observations. DOE does issue annual reports and does measure releases at the stack and there are calculated doses, but there are also measured releases.

I would like also to point out that, as indicated in our environmental report, Georgia Power Company as well as Savannah River, but Georgia Power Company has been doing background measurements for some time, and if there were large impacts from Savannah River into the river they would have been detected. Their background levels are reported in our environmental report.

MR. LAWLESS: Yes, it is true that many of the celeases from the Savannah River plant are published, but it is difficult to get a good nandle on it because most of the releases are published in what is known as a DPSPU series and there are two. One is titled "Environmental Monitoring Results in the Savannah River Plant Vicinity," and the other one is titled with the same title at the Savannah River plant.

For the most part these are the releases that the public has been privy to and the releases at the Savannah river plant are interesting because many of them are substantially lower than are reported when compared against internal plant reports.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Do you have anything, Mr. Perlis?

MR. PERLIS: Nothing further.

MR. FEIG: I would like to add to that that the State Environmental Protection Division of the Department

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of Natural Resources also does regular annual monitoring and they some serious concerns and have made statements to that effect in the environmental impact statement.

Also with concern to Trowbridge's statement that they would consider looking at the environmental impact statement, you have to go a little bit further perhaps in doing that because there may be some modifications necessary in the monitoring process that would have to be done immediately as opposed to just taking a look at that environmental statement and saying that it is okay.

We feel that perhaps somethin, else has to be done and we haven't had time to really study those specifically. That EIS just came out last week.

(Board conferring.)

MR. FEIG: Mr. Chairman, we would like to perhaps amend our contention to where we would like to have the opportunity at least to really assess this environmental impact statement since it hasn't been available to anyone. We would like to see if you would allow some extra time in the next perhaps 10 days to assess that and have some expert look at that and really try to study the impacts and perhaps add to this contention after studying the results.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Is there any objection to

that?

MR. TROWBRIDGE: There may be, Mr. Chairman.

GANE always has the privilege of filing a late or amended contention and citing good cause for doing so.

I would want to be very sure in this case that the information that they are talking about was not already in last September's draft environmental statement before I would ever agree to this.

MR. TEPER: That sounds fair.

MR. FEIG: That is okay.

MR. PERLIS: Mr. Chairman, the only other precautionary note I would add is that again I think we would all be well served if the focus was on the Vogtle facility and not just on what the "L" reactor may be admitting by itself. We shouldn't be that concerned with the "L" reactor standing alone.

JUDGE MARGULIES: would you relate the "L" reactor to Voycle?

MR. FEIG: Well, it is really the total Savannan River plant that we have concern with. I mean there are over 30 million gallons of high-level nuclear waste buried underground there that have an incredible impact on the environment that we don't feel the impacts of those have been also included in this whole assessment.

JUDGE PARIS: We understand your concern with

the Savannah River project, but we must be concerned with the increment that the Vogtle plant will add to the Savannah River. JUDGE MARGULIES: You would address that as a cotality. MR. FEIG: Right. MR. TEPER: Mr. Chairman, I believe the focus of

MR. TEPER: Mr. Chairman, I believe the focus of this whole contention is the incremental effect of plant Vogtle. The fact is how can you add the incremental to the body when the body has not been assessed, and since this report has just been out for a week, I don't believe it has been overwhelmingly assesses as to the incremental effect to Plant Vogtle.

JUDGE MARGULIES: And the focus of the additional information will be on this report that came out within the past several days or week?

MR. TEPER: And an analysis of it by people familiar with the surrounding area being the Savannah River plant and Vogtle.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Mr. Chairman, I think that any such supplement should be filed in the form of an amendment to the contention with an opportunity on our part to respond.

JUDGE MARGULIES: I think that is a fair method of presentation. Rather than 10 days, we will give

you 15 days and give you a little additional time. You don't want to cut yourselves short, and we will give applicant and staff an opportunity to respond.

MR. FEIG: Okay.

MR. TEPER: Thank you.

JUDGE MARGULIES: The response will be within the normal response time provided by the Rules of Practice.

(Board conferring.)

GUDGE MARGULIES: We next come to GANE's proposed Contention No. 3.

MR. TEPER: GANE at this time would like to introduce introduce another GANE member. We weren't able to introduce him this morning because we had to bring him in from Atlanta. If the Board and the petitioner does not object, we would like to introduce Semour Shaye who is a master's level psychologist who will speak on psychological effects of the plant.

(Board conferring.)

JUDGE MARGULIES: We have no objection for the individual to be introduced, but the matter of importance is the Commission's rule not to entertain such a contention unless the situation entails a concurrent accident or it presupposes that there is an accident, and it there had been an accident such a contention would be permitted to be entertained.

So it would serve no useful purpose for the individual that you wish to introduce to provide us with any further information considering the Commission's rule, but you may introduce the individual.

MR. TEPER: GANE would like to cite that not only is the potential of an accident I believe the concern but as well the operation brings about the psychological fear in question. I understand that this has been litigated, and the way GANE operates, because we are not an multiplication utility, we basically farm out our contentions. We have different people who volunteer to take on a different contention and they can address the questions. So at this time we will go ahead and introduce Mr. Snaye and ne can speak to the contention.

purpose. He will have the opportunity. We will take limited appearances in this proceeding in which the public can voice their opinions on various aspects and are not limited. They can speak in a very wide ranging area, and even though there might be a prohibition on a particular subject matter in terms of the evidentiary hearing at the limited appearance session, you may present people who can address those issues.

So it would be more appropriate for him to appear at the limited appearance session, but you may

introduce him as other parties have introduced their people in support of their positions. So if you would introduce him and have him stand you may do that for the record.

MR. TEPER: And he is not going to be able to speak to the contention at this time?

JUDGE MARGULIES: That is correct.

MR. TEPER: Do you intend on having a further evidentiary hearing on this contention?

JUDGE MARGULIES: We will not rule on the contention at this point, but we would be interested at this point if you could have someone speak on the legal prohibition from discussing such a contention in our hearing.

prohibited from from admitting this contention, except under those circumstances that Judge Margulies mentioned. Therefore, any argument that you put forward at this time relating to the contention should address why we or now we might admit the contention in the face of this Commission rule.

MR. TEPER: At this time GANE would like to amend Concention No. 3 to include that the petitioner contends that applicant violates NEPA.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Mr. Chairman, that applicant violates NEPA?

1	MR. TEPER: The National Environmental Policies
2	Act.
3	MR. TROWBRIDGE: Which is not applicable to
4	applicant but to the agency.
5	MR. PERLIS: Mr. Chairman?
6	JUDGE MARGULIES: Mr. Perlis.
7	MR. PERLIS: I will try and clear this up. The
8	problem, as the Board has already alluded to, is that the
9	Commission, as you say, has a policy statement which
10	prohibits consideration of these contentions.
11	If GANE wishes to challenge that policy
12	statement, it may go to the Commission. In fact, it would
13	have to go to the Commission. Changing the wording of this
14	contention to allege a violation of NEPA which, as I read
15	it, that is already in their contention, won't solve the
16	problem.
17	The problem is the Commission has said these
18	contentions should not be heard, and it GANE nonetheless
19	wishes the contention to be heard, it must go to the
20	Commission and get their approval first.
21	JUDGE MARGULIES: That pretty well summarizes
22	it, Mr. Teper.
23	MR. TEPER: Could we have one minute, please.
21	(Pause.)
25	MR. TEPER: I would like to introduce Mr. Shaye

1 and he will address the legal point of addressing the -- is that the problem? Legally I understand the Board is not 3 supposed to address the issue of phychological fear. 4 JUDGE PARIS: Mr. Perlis says you have to go to 5 the Commission if you want to litigate it. 6 JUDGE MARGULIES: All of this stems from a Supreme Court decision. 8 MR. TEPER: I understand that, the Pane Case, is 9 that correct? 10 JUDGE MARGULIES: That is correct, and as it 11 stands ic stands as a par and it will serve no purpose to address us. If you want to introduce him and let him make 12 13 his presentation at the time for limited appearances, he would certainly be welcome. 14 15 MR. TEPER: Thank you. I don't think it will be 16 necessary right now. 17 JUDGE MARGULIES: We next move to proposed 18 Contention 4 which deals with electromagnetic radiation from the power lines. Do you wish to be heard further, Mr. 19 Teper. based on what applicant and the staff have responded 20 21 to the proposed contention? MR. TEPER: GANE stands on its contention. 22 JUDGE MARGULIES: Does applicant have anything 23 further? 24

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MR. TROWBRIDGE: Yes, Mr. Chairman. The

construction permit stage, both by the applicant in its environmental report and by the staff in its FES. As such, in our view, there would have to be significant new infromation or circumstances that would warrant further consideration at this stage.

The only suggestion that we find for new information are references by GANE to several studies or pieces of testimony or statements. In reverse order, they refer to the Helliwell postulation that electromagnetic radition will be injected into the earth's magnetic ducts and speculate from there without any supporting basis or citation to authority that interaction of radiation with electrons will produce X-rays and ultraviolet light and then skin cancers.

I can only say, as indicated in our response, this is inconsistent with Helliwell's own communications filed in the New York Public Service Commission proceeding.

The reference to Carl Morgan's congressional testimony, the substance of that testimony had solely to do with ionizing radiation and not electromagnetic radiation.

And GANE's statement with a carefully placed quotation mark "There is evidence that non-ionizing radiation may be multiplying so rapidly in the numan environment that they result in health nazards in some

areas before we are sufficiently aware of the magnitude of the problem."

Morgan had to say in his Congressional testimony. What he had to say we quote in full on this point at page 30, tootnote 22 of our response where he states in passing that there may be, but there is not evidence that they exist.

Lastly, there is Dr. Marina. I do not think in view of the treatment of his testimony, both by the New York Public Service Commission, which rejected the testimony, the substance of it, or by the Susquehanna Licensing Board, which also rejected the thesis of Dr. Marina, I do not think that constitutes a significant new circumstance to justify this contention.

MR. TEPER: GANE would like to inquire of the applicant if studies were done for the powerlines to Florida as well, the 500 KV powerlines? I don't believe those were addressed and that is a new development.

(Pause.)

MR. TROWBRIDGE: I don't understand the relationship of the Florida powerlines to Vogtle, but I think a simple answer is that they also are 500 KV lines and the electromagnetic effects would be the same whether or not they are connecting with Vogtle.

MR. TEPER: The only thing I can add to GANE's

1 basis, and we will have to let it stand at that, is the reports from tarmers driving their tractors underneath high 3 intensity wires where they sometimes are physically knocked 4 off their tractors, and that is in that contention. 5 JUDGE MARGULIES: Could you tell us what the 6 reference is to Florida powerlines? MR. TEPER: Can I have one minute, please. 8 (Pause.) 9 MR. TEPER: Mr. Chairman, it is my understanding 10 that during the construction permitting stage there were 11 only three lines emanating from Vogtle to different points 12 within Georgia. Since that time there is a new line, 500 KV 13 line that goes to Florida, and I don't believe that was 14 addressed in the construction permit stage. 15 JUDGE PARIS: From Plant Vogtle? 16 MR. TEPER: From Plant Vogcle. Am I correct? 17 MR. TROWBRIDGE: I am told that is incorrect. 18 MR. TEPER: So there are no powerlines from Plant Vogele to Florida? 19 20 MR. TROWBRIDGE: That is correct. 21 JUDGE MARGULIES: It would be appropriate to 22 take a lo-minute recess at this point. 23 (Recess.) 24 JUDGE MARGULIES: Back on the record. 25 We are returning to CPG's proposed Contention

It doesn't appear as if there are any changes to that originally submitted. Do you have anything further, Ms. Fowler? 4 MS. FOWLER: No, sir. JUDGE MARGULIES: How about you, Mr. Teper? MR. TEPER: No, SIC. 6 JUDGE MARGULIES: Mr. Trowbridge. 8 MR. TEPER: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman. The reason 9 I believe we initially delayed on GANE Contention No. 7 was 10 to present the testimony of Mr. Lawless concerning 11 groundwater. We would like to submit for the Board's observation the letter that was sent from Mr. Lawless to 12 13 Mr. Feig as part of the basis for the groundwater 14 concention, GANE Contention No. 7. 15 JUDGE MARGULLES: That is the letter of May 16 29th, 1984? 17 MR. TEPER: Yes, sir. 18 JUDGE MARGULIES: Mr. Trowbridge. 19 MR. TROWBRIDGE: Two things. I am not going to repeat our arguments in the response, but I would urge the 20 21 Board to look at the materials we supplied on groundwater 22 and note the absence of any pasis in the concention for disputing what we nad to say. 23 I am also a little puzzled by the relationship 24

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of Mr. Lawless's letter to this contention. It doesn't have

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anything to do with contamination of groundwater from Vogtle, which I thought was the subject of this contention. It has to do with on-site contamination at Savannah River.

MR. FEIG: It was our concern that the on-site concamination at Savannah River does have an impact on the groundwater at Vogtle. So it is our contention that this letter would relate to that.

MR. PERLIS: Mr. Chairman?

JUDGE MARGULIES: Yes, Mr. Perlis.

MR. PERLIS: If I may, this is the same problem we appear to have had with GANE 2. It may be that the ourial was waste at Savannah River will have an effect on the groundwater underneath Vogtle, but we are here only interested in whether Vogtle will have an impact on the groundwater underneath Vogtle.

Everything in Mr. Lawless's letter deals with the burial of waste on a site which I don't believe is going to be occurring at the Vogcle site. Certainly if it is occurring there, it would be news to the NRC.

(Laughter.)

MR. FEIG: Well, in our assessment of the environmental impact statement we would have to look at the effects of the Savannah River plant on the Tuscaloosa Aquifer and also any additional impacts that Plant Vogtle would have, and I don't think it it would have ever been

possible to assess all of the impacts that Vogtle would nave had given the fact that we have been without certain information, as stated in the environmental impact statement.

So as far as that is concerned, it seems to us that this information is relative to Plant Vogtle as far as how Vogtle will impact the total groundwater of the Tuscaloosa Aquifer.

MR. TEPER: Mr. Chairman, I would like to make an observation at this time. It seems to me that every time the staff responds that they don't understand what this has to do with Plant Vogtle because we are talking about the Savannan River plant, it is my understanding that if the incremental contribution from Vogtle puts the area over the limit of risk to health and safety, that should be a concern. Just because the plant does not violate in and of itself doesn't include the surrounding environment.

I am astonished at what continues to be the staff reponse, or the insensitivity to the concerns of the environment. I mean, it is constantly this well, that doesn't concern us, but I think it does. I mean if we want to talk about this plant sitting somewhere by itself, we can do that, but it is not.

MR. PERLIS: I wasn't suggesting that it was. I agree with Mr. Teper that the NRC is interested in the

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cumulative effects. Where I disagree with Mr. Teper is we haven't found in this contention any indication of how Vogtle will affect the groundwater beneath the site at all. There is no indication of how any contamination will get from Vogtle into the groundwater.

plant has contaminated some groundwater or may contaminate some groundwater within the vicinity of the Savannah River plant. It is that focus that I maintain is not within the purview of this agency.

If GANE can show what the cumulative effects from Vogtle are on the groundwater underneath Vogtle, that is of concern to this agency and I don't mean to maintain that it is not.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Judge Paris has some questions.

JUDGE PARIS: This relates to what Mr. Perlis was just talking about.

Mr. Trowbridge, on page 43 of your response you say that "water movement indicates that spillage at the plant site would eventually find its way to Matchis Pond where it could be intercepted," and you cite the CPER.

Then you say, "Moreover, the time of a migration of a spill to Matthis Pond would be controlled by the permeabilities of the soil and it is estimated to be on

the order of 350 years," and you again cite the CPER. 2 What spillage is talked about there, and this 3 sounds like it is moving through the groundwater. Is it 4 right? Is it moving through an aquifer and, if so, what 5 aquifer? 6 MR. TROWBRIDGE: As I understand it, there is an upper aquifer that I think is not the source of drinking water. At the site itself and north of the site I believe 8 9 is the direction of the runoff of the groundwater movement 10 or of the aguifer movement. There is a clay mark very thick 11 before you get to the next aquifer which does serve as a 12 source of drinking water. 13 Now I don't know if I have answered the 14 question. Maybe I lost the question. 15 JUDGE PARIS: Did spillage reter to routine 16 spillages or a hypothetical aquifer. 1 MR. TROWBRIDGE: No. If there were a spillage this is what would happen. 18 JUDGE PARIS: How far away is Matthis Pond from 19 20 the site? 21 MR. TROWBRIDGE: I understand it is on the site. 22 JUDGE PARIS: Okay. Thank you. That helps. 23 JUDGE LINENBERGER: Mr. Trowbridge, what is a 24 mari, m-a-c-1? 25

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MR. TROWBRIDGE: I think it is a neavy clay.

JUDGE LINENBERGER: That is your understanding 2 of what it is, a heavy clay? MR. TROWBRIDGE: Clay and limestone, but in the crossword puzzles it is just clay. 5 (Laughter.) 6 MR. TEPER: Is that marl impermeable? MR. TROWBRIDGE: Yes. 8 MR. TEPER: To radioactive isotopes? 9 MR. TROWBRIDGE: Yes. Who cares whether they are 10 radioactive. MR. TEPER: I am eating the stuff. I care. 12

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JUDGE LINENBERGER: Now continuing one further point here, we were talking about let's say an accidental spillage at the plant site presumably on the ground somewhere where it was not planned that there would be a spillage. This spillage finds its way to Matthis Pond which is also on site, and end of the sentence says where at Matthis Pond or Mallard Pond, where the spillage could be intercepted.

Now I would like to understand what that means. Does it mean that if the spillag found its way to Matthis there is no natural way for it to perkolate into an aquifer that would concern anypody, or does it mean that when the spillate finds its way to Matthis Pond at that point the applicant will do something special to intercept it to

prevent it from doing anything further?

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Since we took these words directly out of the FSAR, I am going to have to consult the author of them.

(Pause.)

MR. TROWBRIDGE: My understanding is that there is a stream from Matthis Pond into the Savannah River and that any flow would get to Matthis Pond and its stream and go into the Savannah River as opposed to going further and perhaps finding at some point a pervious layer that it could get into ground water.

JUDGE PARIS: You mean you are saying that the water from Matthis Pond flows in a stream to the Savannah River and doesn't get into the groundwater?

MR. TROWBRIDGE: That is what I am saying. I think It does not get into the lower water, the Tuscaloosa Aquifer.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Is there anything further on that contention?

MR. TEPER: Can I inquire if it would reach the upper level aquirer?

MR. TROWBRIDGE: That is the ground water flow through this upper aquifer. That is the aquifer I am talking about, the upper aquifer.

MR. TEPER: Mr. Chairman, I am a little bit, not

1 confused, but I am amazed at the caply that in order to stop the contamination to the groundwater that the contaminants would be drained off to the Savannah River. 3 Is that what the response was? 5 MR. TROWBRIDGE: Just a moment. 6 (Pause.) MR. TROWBRIDGE: The answer is yes, if there were a spill at the site that got into the upper aquifer it 8 9 would go to Matthis Pond and into the Savannah River and it 10 would take about 350 years. 11 MR. TEPER: It being the presupposed concamination at certain levels. 12 13 MR. TROWBRIDGE: Yes, but at a very slow rate of 14 flow, of movement in that upper aguifer. 15 MR. TEPER: Thank you. 16 JUDGE MARGULIES: That completes our review of 17 the proposed contentions. 18 The next matter of consideration is tuture scheduling. I ask the question is it appropriate to go 19 20 attempt to establish future scheduling at this point in 21 that there are so many different filings that we are going to await? 23 MR. TEPER: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to make a clarifying point at this time. There was a powerline 24

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that has been built subsequent to the construction permit

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that talked about three different series of powerlines.

The powerlines to Florida that I was referring to have been built, or are in the process of being built from Plant Hatch to Florida, but it is a new grid and we are presupposing that this will be carrying power from Vogtle.

So, thus, the new 500 KV lines from Hatch to Florida have never been addressed in any kind of applications for Hatch or for Vogcle. So I just wanted to make that clarifying point.

Thank you.

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JUDGE MARGULIES: Mr. Trowbridge.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Mr. Chairman, on the matter of schedule, I do think it is probably premature to be trying to set hearing schedules. They will be controlled I think by the issuance of an FES, by the issuance of an SER and perhaps by a review of emergency plans.

We would nope and would propose that as soon as the staff review is complete, that we proceeding the hearing on any contentions in that area.

I do have a matter of scheduling which I would like to discuss, and that I I have proposed a stipulation of parties on discovery place, , and I am not sure whether we need to adjourn for a discussion of it or whether it is acceptable.

MS. FOWLER: It is fine with us. MR. TEPER: It is fine with us. JUDGE MARGULIES: In the nature of a milestone? MR. TROWBRIDGE: Yes. Would you like me to read it? JUDGE MARGULIES: No. I think if you would just distribute it that would be sufficient. MR. TROWBRIDGE: All right. (Copies of the schedule were distributed to the parties.) (The schedule follows:)

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STIPULATION OF PARTIES ON DISCOVERY SCHEDULE

- There will be two rounds of discovery consisting of an initial round of discovery requests and responses and a follow-on round of requests and responses. Additional discovery shall be had only as provided in paragraph 6 below.
- All initial round discovery requests shall be served within 60 days
 after the date of the Licensing Board's order allowing the contention
 to which the discovery request is a dressed.
- Responses to initial round discovery requests, shall be served within
 days after service of the request.
- 4. Follow-on discovery requests shall be served within 120 days after the Licensing Board's order allowing the contention to which the request is addressed.
- Responses to follow-on discovery request, shall be served within 30 days after service of the request.
- 6. Further discovery shall be had only (a) by agreement of the affected parties or (b) by order of the Licensing Board for good cause shown.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Is the discovery schedule 2 acceptable to all of the parties? 3 MS. FOWLER: Yes. 4 MR. TEPER: Yes, it is. 5 JUDGE MA. GULIES: The staff? 6 MR. PERLIS: Yes, Mr. Chairman. JUDGE MARGULIES: We next have the matter of the establishment of a library in Atlanta. Have steps been 8 9 taken to establish such a library? 10 MR. PERLIS: As I understand it, there will be 11 set up a Public Document Room, some form of Public Document 12 Room at the Region II office of the NRC in Atlanta. 13 Both the NRC technical staff and I believe the 14 utility's techincal staff have already both intervening 15 parties on their mailing list for documents that flow 16 between the staff and the utility. Transcripts will be put 17 in this Document Room in the region. 18 As to what other documents will be available, 19 that remains to be worked out. 20 MS. FOWLER: Initially we had requested maybe 21 access to the computer. Have you all looked into that? MR. PERLIS: We haven't nad a chance to look 23 into that. 24 MR. PEPER: GANE would like to request at this

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time that along with the normal transcripts and

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communications between the parties that the PSAR and the construction application and permit be included, and possibly any I&E enforcement documents. And we would also like access to the Region II interlibrary which has the NUREGS, or a suggestion as to now we can have access to the NUREGS that come out and the ones that have been out, as well as any studies.

It is kind of late in the stage to get to this, but it would help.

MR. PERLIS: I will be discussing that with the Public Document Room people back in Washington and with the region. I would like to say, however, that I don't know how far the NRC is legally allowed to go in terms of whether this constitutes providing financial assistance. We will voluntarily do whatever we are capable of doing.

JUDGE PARIS: Well, if you think that the staff will be able to accomplish this before discovery begins, it might save some discovery requests.

MR. PERLIS: Certainly the transcripts will be there. As to what other documents, I don't know when or if or what documents will be a part of this document room, and I have not talked with anyone in the region in terms of whether they want to make their own library available.

MS. FOWLER: I would like to clarify to the Board one of the things that we suggested at our

Washington computer by way or modem and that is something that I think Mr. Bordenick is looking into. What we will be able to see there is what kind of documents are available, and then those that we need we can order from the Public Document Room in D. C. It would be much more cost effective to NRC and they wouldn't have to have all of those documents actually down in the Public Document Room. We would just ask for those that we needed.

JUDGE PARIS: Is this the NRC library computer?

MR. PERLIS: It used to be run by Terra it is
now run by another company, but it is the document
retrieval system.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: As I understand it, the computer access suggested is not just the documents in this docket but to all of the documents or indexes of the documents in the Public Document Room.

MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, by accessing the computer that already exists in the Public Document Room, it is merely an index of the documents in the Public Document Room. There is not a separate index for the documents directly relevant to Plant Vogtle, which is what we are of course most interested in.

MR. PERLIS: Mr. Bordenick is research that request. He is up on Long Island this week, but we should

know in the next week or two what we will be able to provide.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Well, it seems this requires further consultation between the parties and it seems everyone is attempting to be cooperative and we expect the conferring between the parties will continue in an attempt to resolve these matters.

MR. TEPER: May I suggest that that be done on a timely basis.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Mr. Chairman, I am not positive. We have supplied at this point copies of our FSAR, ER and amendments to the petitioners. When they become admitted as intervenors, we will be supplying them with copies of all of correspondence relating to this docket between us and the NRC, and not just the amendments.

I am not certain in my mind about correspondence that may have already have taken place that. We have not up to this point been supplying copies of all correspondence that might relate to Vogtle, but we will do so.

JUDGE MARGULIES: What documents are available in the Waynesboro Public Document Room, if you know?

MR. JOHNSON: The I&E reports are there, the correspondence between the company and the construction permit hearing transcripts are on microfiche there.

MR. PERLIS: I don't know the answer to that.

JUDGE PARIS: Did you finish the list, Mr.

Johnson? You were doing a very good job.

MR. JOHNSON: I don't think I finished the list, but those are the things that I remember from having spent a couple of days there. I might point out that during this proceeding there were numerous references to the construction permit and, unfortunately, the fact that Vogtle is 150 miles from our headquarters, it is limiting as to how much access we can get to such as the construction permit which might have resolved a few or our shortcomings from the fact that we didn't have the time to go through it.

MS. FOWLER: And that brings us to one more matter which is where are we going to locate these future hearings? Can we address that right now because in our original petition to intervene we addressed that?

JUDGE MARGULIES: we can address it at this time. Are there any new arguments? It was argued quite vigorously and extensively in your prior filings. Is there anything new?

MS. FOWLER: I would just like to clarify and say that we aren't saying that hearings shouldn't be held down here. We do think hearings should be held here and we think that the public down here, we know they are concerned

and they want to understand the issues that are involved.

In fact, we do think hearings should be neld here. The public down here can participate in NPDS water quality permits that the power company is going to have to get before they can start operation. They can come to these hearings.

What we contend is that most of the public here
is not joing to come to the hearings on the technical
issues. So what we propose is that those issues be heard up
in Atlanta. That is where the two intervenors are located
and that is where a lot of the state officials who are
interested in this, like our Environmental Protection
Division of the Department of Natural Resources and our
Public Service Commissioners are located.

Then those issues that might have more public input with local officials testifying like on the emergency response plan, they are more appropriately held down here, and those would probably be the hearings where the public is most likely to attenu anyway.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Mr. Trowbridge.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: I think we have pointed out, as evidenced by I think the attendance here today at this meeting, there is a great deal of local interest and I think in all phases of the hearing. I don't reason for departing from the traditional pattern of holding nearings

in the area of the plant.

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I would re-emphasize again that in terms of burden that there are a great many people from the company here that will be, not the same persons, but there will always be a great many people, and they will be coming from the Vogtle site. That is where the Project Management is now located. It has been consolidated at the site, and that is where our people are and where our documents are and they get to and from a hearing room on short notice so they don't have to be in the room at all times waiting as they might have to if we were some distance.

I think we should not be burdened with having to go to Atlanta.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Mr. Perlis.

MR. PERLIS: Well, without belaboring the obvious primary reason, hearings are held publicly is so that the public may actend. I also suspect that Ms. Fowler may be correct in that after a while, especially if the hearings are very technical in nature, public attendance may drop. That tends to be a frequent occurance at NRC hearings.

If public attendance is going to be very small, then I think it is proper for the Board to consider the convenience of the parties, and it seems obvious that the utility has one preference and the intervenors have

another. As to the staff, we are amenable to holding hearings in any location.

I would suggest though chat it might be a good idea to start the hearings near the plant site to see if there is much local interest. If there is, I think the hearings should be near the site. If local interest proves not to be that great, then I think the Board could rightly weight the balance of the interests of the two parties here.

MS. FOWLER: One thing I would like to point out, when we were talking about the audience today, I think most everybody agrees that most of these people in the audience are company people rather than local people who live around the plant and who are unaffiliated with the company. And I have maintained that a lot of the agencies that represent the public, like we here are reprsenting the public in the intervention process, we are located in Atlanta.

Also the government agencies whose mandate is to protect the public are the Environmental Protection Division, and they are also located in Atlanta and it is going to be a loc easier for them to attend these meetings, especially if they are prolonged, if the hearings are held in Atlanta.

MR. TEPER: Mr. Chairman, I would like to add to

behalf of the intervenors are not high-priced law er from Washington, D. C. or Atlanta or big-paid utility executives or on the payroll of any kind of company. A number of us have taken years at unpaid expense to go wherever hearings might be to try to present a different side of the story.

I think it is only incumbent upon the NRC to hear that other side of the story and at best hear it so that the people who have been trying to present that story do not have to do it at a great expense. It is to the point where we take days off from work and travel great distances and stay wherever we can, and we are lucky if people will put us up in their houses because we can't afford fancy hotels.

If is credible to me the fact that we can put up any kind of contentions or the basis for the contentions when we have to go through great stress to present our side of the story.

I think once again it is incumpent upon the NRC to allow us greater access to the process unless you just want to cut intervenors out altogether. Basically when you put us under stressful conditions, that is what you are doing. You are cutting the public out from the process of licensing these plants.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Mr. Trowbridge.

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1 MR. TROWBRIDGE: Mr. Chairman, in reference to 2 Ms. Fowler's remark, I would like to suggest to the 3 Chairman that he ask for a show of hands as to how many local persons have survived this much of the hearing. 5 JUDGE PARIS: She said they were company 6 employees I thought. 7 How many of you are from Atlanta? 8 (Show of hands.) 9 JUDGE PARIS: How many of you are from this 10 area? 11 (Show of nands.) 12 JUDGE PARIS: How many abstained. 13 (Snow of one hand.) 14 (Laughter.) 15 MS. FOWLER: I think this is really a serious 16 matter about who is representing the public here, and that 17 is something that I believe in some of the affidavits that the company submitted that people from cities around said 18 chat the public wanted to attend these and we don't see the 19 20 public here today. 21 Is the public going to come to these highly public issues? That is what we have to determine. 22 23 JUDGE MARGULIES: We are going to reserve the decision as to where future hearings should be held, but we 24

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feel that Mr. Perlis has presented a well-reasoned approach

and it will probably provide guidance for us in making the determination.

We do have the matter in which both CPG and GANE have identical contentions. Has GANE and CPG gotten together or do they expect to get together in terms of consolidating the contentions and determining who will be the lead intervenor on those contentions?

MR. FEPER: Excuse me. GANE would like to know what exactly is meant by lead intervenor, if you can explain that.

JUDGE MARGULIES: well, the thing is that it would serve no useful purpose to take an identical contention and have each intervenor present an identical case. So it would be a matter of sharing the contentions among you and choosing one of the intervenors to go forward on the particular contention and act as counsel for that individual contention.

MR. JOHNSON: Yes, sir. We had discussed this on the ones on which we did not differ and certainly we will be glad to work together and have one of the parties provide a lead role on that.

As we had many clear on the amendments, many of the contentions that were identical earlier are no longer identical and the particular ones will make their own presentations on those.

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JUDGE MARGULIES: It is something that you don't nave to make a decision at this point on, but it is something that you should consider and at the appropriate time we should be advised.

Is there anything further that requires consideration at this special prehearing conference?

Mr. Delaigle: Mr. Chairman.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Yes, sir.

MR. DELAIGLE: This statement can be on or off the record, either one. I am Ray Delaigle, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Burke County.

JUDGE MARGULIES: This is on the record.

MR. DELAIGLE: Well, I would like to offer the facilities at Burke County for two or three reasons for holding future hearings.

One is Burke County is the most poverty area within the area, and we have citizens down there that cannot travel to Atlanta. Even if they were physically able, they are not financially able.

Also, the immediate area from the adjoining counties would be Screven County, Bulloch County, Jefferson County, Marion County and Jenkins County. They all could participate. So we ask you to consider that. The facility has good acoustics, heating, air conditioning, lighting and whatever.

	[HELENGTON TOPO] IN HOUSE IN HIS SECURITIES IN HEALTH AND AND THE PARTY IN HEALTH AND
1	JUDGE PARIS: Does it have more room for the
2	Judges?
3	MR. DELAIGLE: Yes. There is seating for 500.
4	(Laugncer.)
5	JUDGE MARGULIES: What type of building is this,
6	sic?
7	MR. DELAIGLE: It is Civic Center like, an
8	auditorium.
9	MR. TEPER: And they will provide notel rooms
10	and transportation and the like?
11	(Laughter.)
12	JUDGE MARGULIES: We will consider it, sir.
13	Thank you.
14	(Board conferring.)
15	JUDGE MARGULIES: Judge Linenberger has several
16	questions that he would like to ask.
17	JUDGE LINENBERGER: At one point the Chairman
18	referred to these are the Linenberger contentions. They
19	aren'c really.
20	JUDGE MARGULIES: I didn't.
21	JUDGE LINENBERGER: Correction. The Board is
22	minatul of the fact that Georgia Power is facing into what
23	they would like to think is an operational phase for the
24	Vogtle Plant and the operational phase carries with it some

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considerations rather distinct from the construction phase.

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The Board is not aware as of today what is the makeup of the present ownership of the Vogtle Plant. We are aware that there had been an amendment to the applicantion submitted that requested a change in financial sharing of Vogtle costs and we don't know as of today whether that propsed amendment has been approved.

These are things that we would like to know the answer to in due time if this proceeding goes to a hearing.

Further, and I am leading up to a question to the start, there must be somewhere in existence some kind of a joint ownership agreement that would spell out what are the operational and maintenance requirements and responsibilities amongst the various owners.

Now then let me say that human nature being what it is, and the safety of a proposed operating nuclear plant being of the magnitude of concern that it is, it is certainly important for someone to know that this joint ownership agreement does not in any way contain provisions that might compromise the safety of the plant when it goes into operation.

It is easy to envisage conditions of ownership agreement that could compromise sarety. The specific question to the staff is has the staff considered this matter and looked at the ownership agreement in this light?

I am not asking for the results of your

deliberation. I am only asking have you?

MR. PERLIS: I believe Ms. Miller could speak to chat now if you would like.

MS. MILLER: Yes we have. The sole responsibility for operation, construction and maintenance on the Vogtle facilties is with Georgia Power. In assessing the sale of five percent, which took place several months ago of the plants, we were looking at this because Georgia Power in selling that five percent has under 50 percent ownership in the two plants and we were asking the same questions that you are asking, Judge Linenberger.

There is no provision in this sale by them naving under 50 percent that would affect the safety of the operation. As long as Georgia Power owns at least 15 percent of those plants, they will maintain sole responsibility for all the aspects I have already mentioned.

TUDGE LINENBERGER: Very good. I don't mean this to sound in any sense deprecating of your comments, but those are indeed nice sounding words to say that Georgia Power has sole responsibility for certain things such as maintenance and such as decisions about operation.

On the other hand, it is frequently the case that when a plant starts to operate the sunk costs at the time of start of operation have considerably exceeded what

the joint owners anticipated originally those costs might be.

Now then let's get the plant into operation and let's have Georgia Power say to these co-owners look, fellows, if it is going to be prudent utility practice, whatever that term means, that at the next fuel outage we plug some condenser tubes, and the co-owners will say it sounds good, Georgia Power, but that is going to cost us money. Now why don't you just wait until you are forced by regulation or forced by safety considerations to plug those tubes. Don't go charging us money for things that don't have to be done now.

Well, the agreement says Georgia Power has sole responsibility. That is fine, but if the co-owners say we ain't paying for it, I question what value Georgia Power's sole responsibility is.

Well, I just throw these thoughts out because they are potentially important, and I don't know whether there is a problem here.

A complete change of subject. This Board does not have copies of the applicant's operating license phase environmental report, nor of the applicant's final safety analysis report. We should like to request that one copy of each be sent to the Board at its Bethesda address, please.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: I am sure we can do that. I was

under the mistaken impression that Licensing Boards
normally were able to obtain a copy from the many copies we supplied to the staff, but it that is not the case --
JUDGE LINENBERGER: We care not where it comes
from. All I know is our --
MR. TROWBRIDGE: We will send it unless Mr.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: We will send it unless Mr. Perlis tells us that he has arranged for it to be sent.

amendments, all together in the binders, if you will, please.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: All right.

(Board conferring.)

JUDGE MARGULIES: How does the stipulation of the parties on the discovery schedule tie into the FES and the SER?

MR. TROWBRIDGE: It depends, in my view, on whether there is new information. That is going to be the big test. We are not going to waste time disagreeing over discovery requests where there is a legitimate new

intormation basis for it. We will come to the Board, if necessary, for more important disagreements.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Yes.

MS. FOWLER: I have a request and two questions.

First, CPG requests that we be put on the mailing list of all correspondence going between the company and NRC at this time rather than wait upon the rulings since discovery starts at that time.

Two more questions.

One, do you all have any idea what is the cimeframe of your decision and then, second, you mentioned limited appearances and there are several groups up in Atlanta who are interested in that. When should we tell them that they can start thinking about making limited appearances? Is that at a particular phase of the hearings?

JUDGE PARIS: Usually it runs concurrently with

with the evidentiary hearing.

MS. FOWLER: But since they aren't tied to the evidentiary hearing and you can bring in more macters than are considered in the evidentiary hearing, like if somebody wanted to talk about psychological impacts, at what stage would they bring that in? Does it not matter?

JUDGE PARIS: Any time. We don't establish an itinerary of topics or a schedule of topics.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Anything can come in at the

limited appearances and they generally start at the beginning of the evidentiary hearings.

MS. FOWLER: Okay.

JUDGE PARIS: But we like to do it during the evidentiary hearing periods so that counsel for staff and counsel for applicant will be available and can attend.

(Board conferring.)

MR. FEIG: What about your time frame for responses?

JUDGE LINENBERGER: Are you calking about a prehearing conference order?

MR. PEIG: Yas.

JUDGE MARGULIES: No. 1, we have to await the filing of additional documents. I think some of the are due to come in a month from now or approximately a month from now and we should come out with a special prenearing conference order probably 30 days thereafter, sometime within that time frame.

MR. TROWBRIDGE: Would it not be possible, Mr. Chairman, there are a couple of items like the proprietary agreement, let's say, could the Board not rule on the other contentions leaving that one aside?

JUDGE MARGULIES: I would still not like to restrict us by a time limit of less than 30 days after the documents come in.

164 1 MS. FOWLER: I chink that makes our request for 2 addition on the mailing list even more important. 3 MR. TROWBRIDGE: I was about to add that your 1 request is granted and beginning tomorrow we will send you 5 copies. 6 MR. TEPER: GANE would also like to be included. MR. TROWBRIDGE: Yes, we will do chac. 8 MR. TEPER: Mr. Chairman, I would also like to 9 submit at this time, and I thought this was passed out, but 10 this was the letter that I read from concerning quality 11 assurance. I thought it was passed out earlier. That was 12 conserning the individual who worked at one of the 13 suppliers. 14 (The document was distributed to the parties.) 15 MR. TROWBRIDGE: Mr. Chairman, I am not now 16 going to make a request of the Board, but we have received 17 several pieces or paper that have been added as bases for 18 concentions, plus some new information sooken into the transcript.

It may be that we will ask leave of the Board to supplement our responses on the basis that it is not reasonable to read and direct and discuss these with our technical people.

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JUDGE MARGULIES: I think that is a reasonable request in terms of the documents that were passed rit

today or were first made known of today, yes.

There being nothing further ---

MR. TEPER: One more point.

JUDGE MARGULIES: Okay.

MR. TEPER: I would like to point out the possible historic occurrence that just happened. I believe this might be one of the last hearings as such in the history of the nuclear industry in the fact that the nuclear industry seems to have fallen on some sorts of hard times. So I just thought it was incumbent upon me to point that out at this time.

JUDGE MARGULIES: There being nothing further, the nearing is closed.

(whersupon, at 4:50 p.m., the special prehearing conference was closed.)

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REPORTER'S NOTE:

Because Intervenor CPG did not have enough copies of the following documents, they will be mailed to Tayloe Associates and then delivered to the Commission:

- 1. Affidavit of Dennis Cruch, Georgia Solar Coalition
- Signed statement of Ford Spinks, Georgia Public Service Commission
- Motion passed by 5-0 vote of Ga. PSC re; construction review and financing.

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CERTIFICATE OF PROCEEDINGS

This is to certify that the attached proceedings before the NRC COMMISSION

In the matter of: Georgia Power Company et al.

Date of Proceeding: 30 May 1984

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Place of Proceeding: Augusta, Ga.

were held as herein appears, and that this is the original transcript for the file of the Commission.

Mary C. Simons
Official Reporter - Typed

Main C. Osmon Official Reporter - Signature Letter to Dixie Lee Ray, Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission from W. R. Stratton, Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, pp. 2-3.

"Proximity of the AEC's Savannah River Plant and the Barnwell Nuclear Fuel Plant makes it important to have effective emergency arrangements to deal with unusual circumstances that may be of interrelated safety significance to the three plants. The applicant has indicated that he will establish an emergency plan in cooperation with the other nuclear installations to ensure effective emergency response as demanded by events in the immediate area. Consideration should be given by the AEC to periodic evaluation of the combined routine liquid and airborne radionuclide releases from these two plants and the Vogtle plant as they may affect the health and safety of the public."

Danny Feig GANE Representative 1130 Alta Avenue NE Atlan'a, GA 30307

Dear Danny,

In response to your request, I have reviewed the literature on nuclear waste and have found the following:

1.) DOE Savannah River has found SR-90 vegetative uptake to be a significant problem when not controlled; "Vegetation radiating 2100 mrad/hr at 5 cm was detected growing over backfilled burial trenches during the summer of 1965." The maximum uptake in 1968 vegetation was 790 pCi/g of SR-90. Dupont calculations indicate vegetative uptake may produce a surface SRP Burial Ground contamination of 20 rem/y; federal guidelines used by DOE restrict such releases to 500 mrem/y whereas the NRC restricts to 25 mrem/y. However, when the NRC regulations became final, the SRP data had not been public; thas been postulated that vegetative uptake can be the limiting pathway at some sites as well as vegetative/animal intrusion; the NRC regulation is deficient in these considerations.

The NRC class C waste, the most radioactive waste, is regulated by requirement to be buried below 5 meters below the surface. Nonetheless, Class A and B waste and even Class C waste has not been demonstrated to be free of the biotic vectors noted above. Before additional burdens of radioactive waste are added to the environment, the NRC should so demonstrate the safety of 10 CFR Part 61 regulated waste.

- 2.) The NRC allows solid wastes that are radioactive and possibly hazardous to be disposed in trenches that, once closed, constitute intimate contact with the soil. The NRC requires the minimization of water percolating into closed trenches containing radioactive waste, but does not require water collection through sumps monitoring all water passing through the closed trenches. The use of unlined trenches without requirements for collection of all meteorological water may be a violation of the EPA Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). Before additional burdens of radioactive, hazardous or mixed wastes are added to the environment, these issues should be resolved.
- 3.) The Department of Energy requested the NRC in 1982, during the 10 CFR Part 61 Rulemaking, to raise the transuranic waste lower control limit from 10 nCi/g to 100 nCi/g. In response to the DOE and other commentators, "the Commission has reevaluated the analysis for disposal of waste containing transuranic nuclides...disposal limits for class C waste have been raised to 100 nCi/gm for long lived alpha emitting transuranic nuclides." The DOE experience, however, with transuranic nuclides indicated that DOE Burial Grounds

Danny Feig May 29, 1984 Page 2

exceeded drinking water standards for both Pu 238 and Pu 239, and this was known to the DOF at the time the DOE requested the NRC to ease its proposed standards. I Even though the monitoring well-water is not presently accessible for public water consumption, the fact that drinking water standards were broken indicated significant alpha nuclide migration while under the 10 nCi/g limit at DOE Defense radioactive waste burial grounds. Before additional radioactive waste burdens are added to commercial burial grounds, this issue should be addressed.

If I can be of additional assistance to you, please let me know.

Sincerely,

William F. Lawless, Former Senior Project Engineer Nuclear Waste Management Branch Department of Energy, Savannah River Plant

P.O. Box 12172 Augusta, GA 30904

References

- 1. Fenimore, J.W., The Assessment of Solid Low-Level Waste Management
 At The Savannah River Plant Dupont Rep. No. DPST-77-300 (1977). p. 40-41.
- 2. J. Wiley, "Savannah River Laboratory Dose to Man Model", Proceedings of the Third Annual Information Meeting, DOE Low Level Waste Management Program, November 4-6, 1981, New Orleans, LA, DOE Rep. ORNL/NFW-81/34, 305, (1981).
- 3. Radioactive Waste Management, DOE Order 5820.2 (1984).
- 4. 10 CFR Part 61 Licensing Requirements For Land Disposal of Radioactive Wastes, Federal Register, Vol. 47, No. 248 (1982).
- 5. Symposium on Low-Level Waste, NRC Rep. NUREG/CP-0028, CONF-820911 (1983).

Danny: this could fit under NEPA issues (p. 20, paragraph 1) or somewhat under cumulative effects (p. 22) but only weakly under the last.

This is a generic issue that indirectly applies to Vogtle. The NRC nuclear waste regulation (10 CFR Part 61) regulates commercial nuclear generated waste such as will be generated by Vogtle. The NRC regulation is deficient for vegetative uptake; does or may not apply for the EPA RCRA regulations and all NRC regulated burial grounds may be in violation of RCRA; and possibly may be deficient in their lower central limit for transuranic waste.

The argument is this: additional radioactive wastes generated by power plants add othe the unresolved issues of vegetative uptake, possible RCRA violations, and transuranic waste. New power plants (nuclear) should not be licensed (or allowed to be built) until this issue is addressed.

Robert A Seathaler Prosident

Flow Control Division 400 North Lean-Jon Avenue Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15208

> (412) 247-3333 Telex 866241 Cable: RCCKWL INT PGH

December 17, 1982

Mr. Clinton L. Sumrall Apartment 4-H 600 Dalrymple Road N.W. Atlanta, GA 30328

Dear Mr. Sumrall:

Preliminary evaluation has been completed on the recommendations made in your letter of November 2, 1982.

As you know, in practice the design of the products in question has proven capable of operation under maximum adverse conditions of seismic loading, pipe bending, line rupture flow, etc. The design is deemed satisfactory for use in nuclear facilities.

All valves and valve parts supplied by Rockwell meet or exceed the requirements of the procurement documents. These requirements have been established to assure reasonable integrity within the environment of the products' intended use.

In addition to the procurement requirements, Rockwell has met or exceeded engineering standards which are generally applicable to the manufacture of the valve and valve parts.

The history of valves now in field use has confirmed the reliability of the manufacturing procedures Rockwell follows. Valves now in operation in nuclear facilities have in the aggregate completed millions of hours of use without evidencing the possibility of an incident to which your concerns are directed.

While the design, manufacture, testing and inspection of these components have proven reliable, their integrity is periodically confirmed through regularly scheduled on-line testing at nuclear facilities.

In considering these facts, there appears to be no support for the opinion that Rockwell has failed to notify the NRC of a reportable deficiency under 10 CFR 21. Rockwell is not aware of any defect nor does your letter give cause to believe that there exists a defect in its valves which would create a substantial safety hazard required to be reported under NRC regulations.

Mr. Clinton L. Sumrall December 17, 1982 Page 2

A copy of your letter has been forwarded to the Director, Office of Inspection and Enforcement, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Seethaler

/pac

Danny Feig GANE Representative 1130 Alta Avenue NE Atlanta, GA 30307

Dear Danny,

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1.) DOE Savannah River has found SR-90 vegetative uptake to be a significant problem when not controlled; "Vegetation radiating 2100 mrad/hr at 5 cm was detected growing over backfilled burial trenches during the summer of 1965." The maximum uptake in 1968 vegetation was 790 pCi/g of SR-90. Dupont calculations indicate vegetative uptake may produce a surface SRP Burial Ground contamination of 20 rem/y; federal guidelines used by DOE restrict such releases to 500 mrem/y whereas the NRC restricts to 25 mrem/y. However, when the NRC regulations became final, the SRP data had not been public; thas been postulated that vegetative uptake can be the limiting pathway at some sites as well as vegetative/animal intrusion; the NRC regulation is deficient in these considerations.

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Danny Feig May 29, 1984 Page 2

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If I can be of additional assistance to you, please let me know.

Sincerely,

William F. Lawless, Former Senior Project Engineer Nuclear Waste Management Branch Department of Energy, Savannah River Plant

P.O. Box 12172 Augusta, GA 30904

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The argument is this: additional radioactive wastes generated by power plants add othe the unresolved issues of vegetative uptake, possible RCRA violations, and transurance waste. New power plants (nuclear) should not be licensed (or allowed to be built) until this issue is addressed.

November 2, 1982

Mr. D. R. Beall, President Rockwell International Corporation 600 Grant Street Pittsburgh, Panasylvania 15219

Dear Mr. Deall:

As a citizen concerned with the welfare of the public, I try to stay abreast of problems involving nuclear power safety. Although nuclear power has become an established energy source, extreme care must still be taken to safeguard public health and safety. By having a master's degree in nuclear engineering and by being a former sales engineer of nuclear equipment in the Flow Control Division of Rockwell International, I feel that I am qualified to comment on problems involving nuclear power safety.

While employed by Rockwell I became concerned that balanced disk main ateam isolation valves with air/spring actuators furnished to numerous nuclear power plants by Rockwell had not been adequately tested and therefore could create a substantial safety hazard in the event of an accident. The lives of thousands of people could be in danger. Please refer to Attachment I for an explanation of the deficiencies and Attachment 2 for a partial listing of the power plants involved.

Although this letter deals with balanced disk main steam isolation valves with air/spring actuators, clailar problems exist with other types of main steam isolation valves and power accuated seismically active valves in general.

Personnel at Pockwell are aware that certain parts in the valve upper structure and actuator in the Rockwell design are very critical to the proper operation of the valve; however, the integrity of the material of these parts in each valve has not been verified by nondestructive examination and material traceability. Apparently they are taking the position that they are meeting the minimum requirements of the ASME boiler & Pressure Vessel Code and the necessary qualification testing and analysis that is required by the U.S. anchear regulatory Commission (NEC) and do not include to perform accustical testing. It appears that they are more concerned with profits then the safe you fine public.

Pr. D. R. Beall, President Rockwell International Corporation Hovember 2, 1982 Page 2

Federal regulations (10 Gra 21) require that whicheness be reported. To my knowledge Rockwell has not advised the bad, as required by sations 21.1 and 21.21, that these parts are critical to the operation material traceability those parts might be defective examination and create a substantial safety hazard. Until employed by Rockwell I voiced my job description and formet this matter if I valued my future with the company. Failure to report a deficiency is a violation as specified in section 21.61.

Since I am no longer associated with Rockwell I am now free to notify the proper parties of my concerns. I feel that Rockwell has an obligation to rectify the entire situation so that the population surrounding these plants will be protected. If your company does not intend to take proper corrective action that is satisfactory to all concerned, I will then notify organizations such as the Critical Mass the utilities can be contacted and so that the public can be informed through the news media of the entire situation.

Please lit me have your response within two weeks.

St. curely,

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Made steam isolation valves are very irriteal to the safe shutdown of a nuclear power plant during an emergency. These are large valves that are installed in steam lines with diameters from 10" to 36". They are designed and tamefactured in accordance with class I or class 2 requirements of the ASMI Botter & Pressure Vessel Code, Section III. Hereafter this code will be referred to as Section III. Also, these valves are classified as seismically active.

Realizing that materials are sometimes defective, Section III requires that pressure retaining parts be subjected to nondestructive testing, such as radiographic, liquid penetrant and magnetic particle examination, to verify the integrity of the material. Also, material traceability is required. Pressure retaining parts are those that directly contain the fluid pressure such as the body, bonnet, stem and disk. Since Section III is a pressure vessel code and is concerned primarily with pressure retaining (boundry) items, parts comprising the valve upper structure receive much lass attention. Nondestructive testing is not required for these parts even though they perform critical functions during valve operation.

There are two seismic categories of valves, nonactive and active. A nonaction valve must only retain pressure boundry integrity during a seismic occurrence. Opening or closing is not required. An active valve, in addition to totalking pressure boundry integrity during a seismic occurrence, wust also operate to either close or upon the valve. Since active valves are very necessary to the safe shutdown of a nucleur plant in an emergency, the L.b. Suclear Regulatory Commission (NKC) numbers that they be subjected to qualification testing and analysis to demonstrate that a particular valve design will operate during upset conditions.

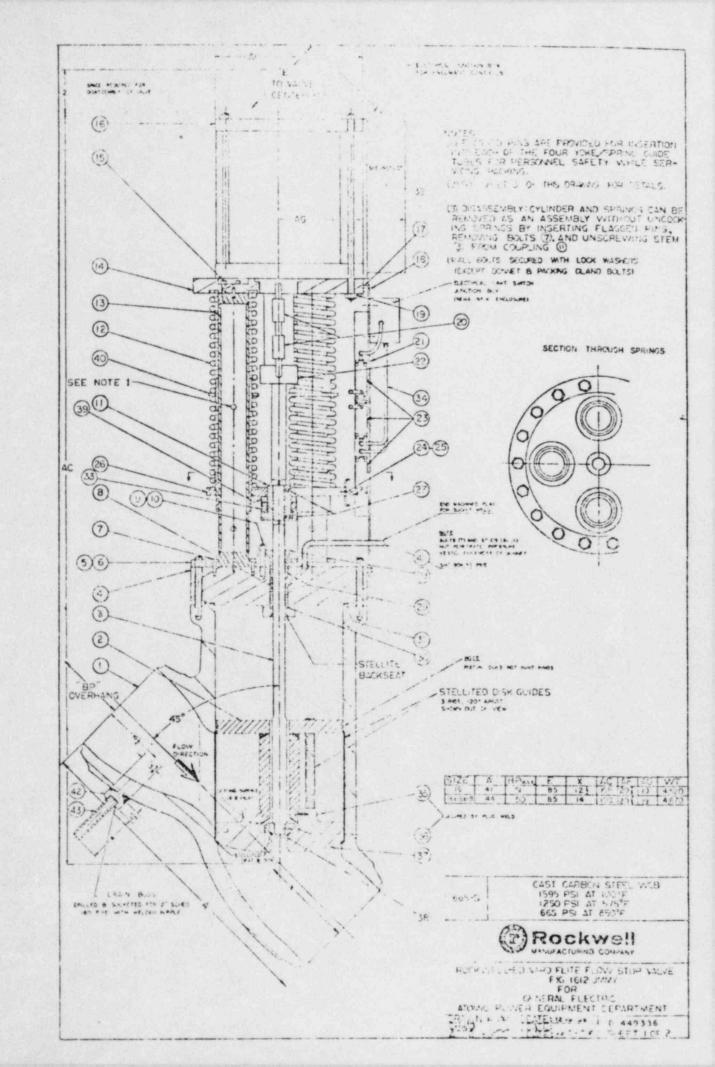
What we now have which these main steam isolation valves is a complete valve assembly and actuator design that has been qualified to assure operability; however, verification of material integrity of individual parts and walds on each valve has been limited to pressure retaining parts even though there are items in the upper structure and actuator that are very critical to valve operation. Fallure of one or more of these parts during an accident that involved a seismic occurrence could create a substantial safety hazard just as disastrous as the failure of a pressure retaining part. Some of these parts on a Nockwell balanced disk main sceam valve with an sir/spring actuator are:

- 1. yoke/spring guides
- 2. springs
- 3. operator mounting flange
- 4. spring flange
- 5. bolts connecting the yoke to the bonnet
- 6. coupling that compacts the spring flam a to the stem
- 7. pneumatic valve, tout releases air from the actuator
- 8. hydraulic speed control device

The old empression that a chain is only as strong as its weakest link certainly applies here. In fact, there are numerous links that might have defects. The only way to absolutely assure that these valves will overate during a seismin occurrence in to subject the additional parts to nowlestructive testing with complete Jocumentation and to provide naterial traceability.

Huclear Plants with Receivell Belanced bisk Main Steep Isolation Valves

Country	Plaat	Letter
United States	Verboit Yankoe Cooper Branwick Dinna Arnold Shot and Fitt dirich Arlandid Zinner Hatch LaSalle Hanford Beilly	Vorage & Conkee Nuclear Power Corp. Nobrada Public Power District Corolina Power & Light Iowa a locatic Light & Power Long Largad Lighting Power & thority, Port of New York Arbanaas Power & Light Cincinnati Gas & Electric Georgia Power Co. Commonwealth Edison Washington Public Power
United States	Davis-Lesse	Northern Indiana Public Service Toledo Edison & Cleveland Electric Illuminating
United States United States	Crystal Piver North Anna	Florida Power Corp. Virginia Electric & Power
Pinland	Lovisa	Ive
Jopan	fubushira	Tologo Electric
Tolwan	Gutasus Kuo Shilan	Tatum Power Tolono Power
Lanco	5 P. v. je	1. D. Franci
Japan	Tol. 14	anno.
Section	Lo tran Varda	
. pa.16	Conference	



LIST OF MATERIALS QUANTITIES ARE FOR ONE VALVE

NO.	NAME	NO REGIS	MATERIAL	SPECIFICATION	MS NO
1	body	1	cast carbon steel	ASIM A2I6 Grade WC8	102
2	piston assembly	1	forged carbon steel	ASTM AI05 Grade 2	111
3	stem	1	410 Cb, 205 BHN Mox.	AMS 5609	217
4	bonnet	1	forged steel	ASTM AIDS Grade 2	111
5	bonnet stud	18	alloy steel bolting	ASTM A540 Grade B23	286
6	nut	18	steel	ASTM AIM Grade 2H	127
7	bolt	24	alloy steei	AIS1 4000, 4100, 8600, or 8900	.205
8	lantern ring	1	C.Dr. carbon st. stellited	ASTM A-103 Grade C-1018	120
9	gland stud	2	alloy steel bolting	ASTM A193 Grade B7	203/60
10	nut	2	steel - Cd.Pl.	ASTM A194 Grade I	124/60
11	coupling	1	alloy steel	AISI C4140	224
12	spring	8		AIS! 5160	236
13	yoke/spring guide	4	st./Peco-st.vinyl St.St.		176
14	mounting flange	1	seamless cr.st./Moly coated carbon steel		118/608
15	holt	12	alloy steel	ASTM A-315 Grade 70 AIST 4000, 4100, 8600, or 8900	115 205
16	pneumatic cylinder	1	steel	Sheffer	999
17	spacer	1	Seamless carbon steel	ASTM A106 Grade B	118
18	bolt	3	alloy steel	ASTM A-354 Grade BD	206
19	nut	4	stee!	ASTM A-194 Grade I	124
20	hydraulic control valves	2	steel	Manitrol	999
21	limit switch support		carbon stee	ASTALASSS	116
22	hydraulic cylinder	1	steel	Sheffer	999
23	limit switches	6	steel	Namco No. SL-3 DP-DT	997
24	limit switch actuators	2	carbon steel	ASTM A366	116
25	bolt	2	alloy steel	ASTM A-354 Grade BD	206
26	spring flonge	1	carbon steel	ASTM A-515 Grade 70	115
27	set screw	4	steel	AISI 4037	205
28	packing gland	1	heat treated steel	AS FM A-105 Grade 2	135
29	packing rings	10	high temperature packing	John Crane 187-1X	508
30	iunk rine	1	C.Dr. Carbon StStellired	ASTM A-103 Grade C-1018	120
31	bonnet gasket	1	stainless steel and asbestos	spira! wound	518
32	Preumatic Control System			Numatics	999
33	Spacer		seamless carbon steel	ASTM A-106 Grade B	118
34	electrical cable	6	Chromulax Pyratenax	Type MI Cable	999
35	Disk lock pin	1	C.Dr. curban steel	ASTA: A-103 Grade C-1013	120
36	stem disk pin	1	C.Dr. collen steel	ASTM A-103 Grade C-1018	120
37	disk	1	forged alloy steel-stillited	ASTM A-182, Grade FII	227
38	stem Jisk		forged all y steel stelling	ASTM A-132, Grade FII	227
39	universal ring spring divide:	4	alloy steel C. Dr. Callon Steel	ASTALA-103 Grade C-1013	236 !20
41	ripe nipole		supplies con an start	ASTM A-106 Grade B	113
42	drain boss	1	C.Dr. corle. n sto-1	45 TA1 A-108 Grade C-1018	120
43	pips nipple		segnifies contain steel	AS IM ALS Grade B	118
	LIST OF MATE	RIAL	SFOR	(Rockwell	
	G. 1612 JMMY				

APPO DATE SPEC IDENT

SHT. REV DRG. D-449336

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DATE CHK'D