

August 24, 1995

EA 95-167
Georgia Power Company
ATTN: Mr. J. T. Beckham, Jr.
Vice President, Plant Hatch
Nuclear Operations
P. O. Box 1295
Birmingham, AL 35201

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-321/95-17 AND 50-366/95-17

Dear Mr. Beckham:

This refers to the inspection conducted on July 5 through August 15, 1995, of the Hatch facility. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized by the licensee were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. The inspection reviewed Low Pressure Coolant Injection (LPCI) inboard injection Motor-Operated Valve (MOV) failures which occurred on May 19, June 18, and July 2, 1995. The inspection included reviews of the failure investigation and an evaluation to determine if the LPCI and Core Spray Injection (CSI) inboard injection MOVs would pressure lock during a Loss of Coolant Accident. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observation of hardware.

Based on the results of this inspection, an apparent violation was identified and is being considered for escalated enforcement action in accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions" (Enforcement Policy), (60 FR 34381; June 30, 1995). The apparent violation identified is related to failures to promptly correct conditions adverse to quality effecting the operability of your LPCI inboard injection MOVs. Accordingly, no Notice of Violation is presently being issued for these inspection findings. In addition, please be advised that the number and characterization of apparent violations described in the enclosed inspection report may change as a result of further NRC review.

A predecisional enforcement conference to discuss this apparent violation has been scheduled for September 13, 1995 at 10:00 a.m. The decision to hold a predecisional enforcement conference does not mean that the NRC has determined that a violation has occurred or that enforcement action will be taken. This conference is being held to obtain information to enable the NRC to make an enforcement decision, such as a common understanding of the facts, root causes, missed opportunities to identify the apparent violation sooner, corrective actions, significance of the issues and the need for lasting and effective corrective action. In particular, we expect you to address the past

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operability of the LPCI inboard injection MOVs, considering their recently discovered degraded conditions and the potential for them to pressure lock during a Loss of Coolant Accident. In addition, this is an opportunity for you to point out any errors in our inspection report and for you to provide any information concerning your perspectives on 1) the severity of the apparent violation, 2) the application of the factors that the NRC considers when it determines the amount of a civil penalty that may be assessed in accordance with Section VI.B.2 of the Enforcement Policy, and 3) any other application of the Enforcement Policy to this case, including the exercise of discretion in accordance with Section VII.

You will be advised by separate correspondence of the results of our deliberations on this matter. No response regarding the apparent violation is required at this time.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
Albert F. Gibson

Albert F. Gibson, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-321, 50-366
License Nos. DPR-57, NPF-5

Enclosures:

1. Inspection Report
2. Enforcement Policy: Section V,
"Predecisional Enforcement Conferences"

cc w/encls: (See page 3)

cc w/encls:

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 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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*FOR PREVIOUS CONCURRENCES - SEE ATTACHED COPY

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