

October 9, 1984

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-84-67

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region II staff on this date.

FACILITY: Georgia Power Company  
Hatch Unit 1  
Docket No. 50-321  
Baxley, Georgia

Licensee Emergency Classification:  
 Notification of Unusual Event  
 Alert  
 Site Area Emergency  
 General Emergency  
 Not Applicable

SUBJECT: FUEL ASSEMBLY DROPPED INTO SPENT FUEL POOL

At 7:45 a.m. (EDT) on October 6, the unit defueling crew dropped a spent fuel assembly while it was being placed into the spent fuel pool. The licensee reports that workers had just started to insert the assembly into its intended cell location in the spent fuel rack when the grapple released it.

The fuel assembly dropped some 12 feet, but the licensee reports that it remained intact with no release of radioactivity. Licensee inspection of the assembly revealed some scuffing and a bent channel fastener.

Licensee examination of the grapple did not indicate an apparent problem. The licensee's review did turn up a limit switch with no protective cover to prevent bumping and inadvertent release of the element. This cover was the subject of a 1978 G.E. Service Information Letter, and has now been installed by the licensee.

Defueling operations were resumed on the Unit on October 8 at 9:50 a.m. (EDT).

The NRC resident inspector responded to the scene. Region II will closely follow the progress of the remainder of the defueling operation. The licensee will not restart the Unit prior to determination of the problem's cause and concurrence by the NRC staff.

Media interest is not expected. Neither the licensee nor the NRC plans to issue a news release.

The State of Georgia has been informed.

The NRC received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the licensee to the headquarters duty officer at 8:05 a.m. (EDT) on October 6.

This information is current as of 10:00 a.m. (EDT) on October 9.

Contact: J. Rogge, 242-5568

D. Verrelli, 242-5526

8410120012 841009  
PDR I&E  
PNO-II-84-067 PDR

IE34  
0/1

DISTRIBUTION:

H. Street  
Chairman Palladino  
Comm. Roberts  
Comm. Asselstine  
Comm. Bernthal  
Comm. Zech  
SECY  
ACRS  
CA  
PDR

MNBB  
EDO  
PA  
MPA  
ELD  
Air Rights  
SP

Phillips  
NRR 12:15

E/W  
IE  
OIA  
AEOD  
INPO 12:20  
NSAC

Willste  
NMSS  
RES

MAIL:  
ADM:DMB  
DOT: Trans Only  
Applicable State

Regions:  
Licensee: 12:30  
(Reactor Licensees)  
Applicable Resident Site 12:25

DMB  
IE-34