October 15, 1984

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-84-71

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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

Site Area Emergency
General Emergency
X Not Applicable

SUBJECT: LINEAR INDICATIONS IN RECIRCULATION PIPE WELDS

Region II inspectors reviewed the licensee's recirculation piping inspection, which is being done pursuant to NRR Generic Letter 84-11, on October 9-12, 1984.

The licensee has identified linear indications on 15 welds as follows:

- A. Two welds 28-inch recirculation pipe. All have essentially 360-degree circumferential, 30-percent maximum thruwall UT indication.
- B. One weld 24-inch residual heat removal pipe weld. The pipe has three axial indications with 50-percent maximum thruwall indication.
- C. Twelve welds 12-inch recirculation riser pipe welds. All have essentially 360-degree circumferential, 30-percent maximum thruwall UT indication.

As a result of these indications, EPRI, at Georgia Power Company's request, has performed further verification of the UT technique and will present the results today. Special radiographic equipment (MINAC) will be used this week to further verify the nature of the indications.

The licensee has expanded the scope of weld inspection at this Unit to include all circumferential stainless steel welds in the recirculation and residual heat removal systems. Preliminary planning is being made for the performance of weld overlays if cracking is confirmed.

PNOs 82-116 and 116A cover similar indications identified at this Unit during its last outage of this type.

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

The State of Georgia has been informed.

This information is current as of 11:00 a.m. on October 15.

Contact: J. Rogge, 242-5568

A. Herdt, 242-5585

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