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C. K. McCoy
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Georgia Power

the southern electric system

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Docket No. 50-425

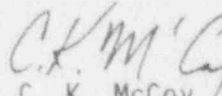
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D. C. 20555

Gentlemen:

VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT
SPECIAL REPORT
INVALID DIESEL GENERATOR FAILURE

In accordance with the requirements of the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant Technical Specifications, sections 4.8.1.1.3 and 6.8.2, Georgia Power Company hereby submits the enclosed Special Report concerning an invalid diesel generator failure.

Sincerely,


C. K. McCoy

CKM/NJS/gmb

Enclosure: Special Report 2-92-4

xc: Georgia Power Company
Mr. W. B. Shipman
Mr. M. Sheibani
NORMS

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mr. S. D. Ebnetter, Regional Administrator
Mr. D. S. Hood, Licensing Project Manager, NRR
Mr. B. R. Bunser, Senior Resident Inspector, Vogtle

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VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT - UNIT 2
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION SPECIAL REPORT 2-92-4
INVALID DIESEL GENERATOR 2B FAILURE

A. REQUIREMENT FOR REPORT

This report is required in accordance with the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant Technical Specifications (TS), section 4.8.1.1.3, which requires all diesel generator (DG) failures, valid or invalid, be reported to the Commission in a Special Report pursuant to TS 6.8.2.

B. DESCRIPTION OF INVALID FAILURE OF DIESEL GENERATOR 2B

Following its once per 18 month overhaul, DG 2B underwent several maintenance tests to prime, calibrate, or verify the functioning of various DG components. Although these tests identified problems, which were corrected as intended, one of the tests is considered to be an invalid failure per Regulatory Guide 1.108.

On March 31, 1992 at 1618 EST, DG 2B was successfully started to set the governor. After venting the mechanical governor, personnel made several attempts to excite the generator field in order to place the electrical governor in operation, but were unable to do so. The DG was stopped at 1658 EST.

An investigation found a closed microswitch on the bridge transfer switch, causing the K1 relay to latch in the closed position and short the generator field. The microswitch has a collar which moves on the transfer switch shaft. When the transfer switch was released during the overhaul, the spring loaded collar did not fully return to its normal position. The collar was manually returned to the normal position, and DG testing continued. The appropriate procedures will be changed by June 15, 1992, to ensure that the collar is checked for proper positioning.

C. SUMMARY

Following completion of the maintenance testing and a valid surveillance test, DG 2B was declared operable and restored to service on April 3, 1992. Diesel generator 2B has experienced one valid failure in the last 20 valid tests and 3 valid failures in a total of 78 valid tests. The test frequency remains at once per 31 days in accordance with the requirements of TS table 4.8-1.