

December 14, 1995

EA 95-263

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 NOS. 50-321/95-26 AND 50-366/95-26

Gentlemen:

This refers to the inspection conducted by B. Holbrook of this office on November 12 - December 2, 1995. The inspection included a review of activities authorized for your Hatch facility. 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. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observation of activities in progress. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized by the license were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements.

Based on the results of this inspection, IR 50-321,366/95-26, 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), NUREG-1600. A number of deficiencies were identified that affected the operation of Residual Heat Removal System, Reactor Core Isolation Cooling, and Reactor Water Recirculating System components from the Unit 2 remote shutdown panel. This equipment could not be operated from the Unit 2 remote shutdown panel to mitigate the consequences of a fire in the main control room, cable spreading room and computer room. Accordingly, no Notice of Violation is presently being issued for these inspection findings. In addition, please be advised that the number and characterization of the apparent violation 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 December 28, 1995. This is a closed meeting. 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,

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corrective actions, significance of the issues and the need for lasting and effective corrective action. 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
E. W. Merschoff

Ellis W. Merschoff, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

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

Enclosure: NRC Inspection Report

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