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Manager Nuclear Engineering
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Georgia Power
the southern electric system

NED-84-470

September 4, 1984

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attention: Mr. John F. Stolz, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch No. 4
Division of Licensing
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

NRC DOCKETS 50-321, 50-366
OPERATING LICENSES DPR-57, NPF-5
EDWIN I. HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1, 2
10 CFR 50 APPENDIX R FIRE BARRIER MATERIAL

Gentlemen:

Representatives of Georgia Power Company (GPC) met with members of the NRC Staff on August 8, 1984, to discuss technical and scheduler issues related to the implementation of 10 CFR 50 Appendix R modifications. During this meeting, the use of kaowool as a fire barrier material was discussed. However, no final resolution was obtained concerning its acceptability for such application. The NRC Staff stated at that meeting that a letter would be issued through the project manager to resolve this item. To date, this information has not been received by GPC.

A resolution of this issue is necessary for our determination of the need for additional exemption requests under 10 CFR 50 Appendix R. Kaowool has been installed in the plant river intake structure to reduce the combustible loading as part of the Appendix R modifications. Further, the use of kaowool is planned for installation as an interim barrier as part of the mitigating actions taken in support of our proposed scheduler exemption for non-outage-related work. Thus, a timely resolution to the acceptability of kaowool as a fire barrier material under 10 CFR 50 Appendix R is highly desirable.

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Page Two

We, therefore, request notification of your determination of the acceptability of kaowool as a fire barrier at your earliest convenience. Should you have any questions regarding this request, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

L. T. Gucwa

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xc: J. T. Beckham, Jr.
H. C. Nix, Jr.
J. P. O'Reilly (NRC- Region II)
Senior Resident Inspector