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C. K. McCoy Vice President Muclear Vogtle Project



May 18, 1992

ELV-03763 000407

Docket No. 50-425

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

Gentlemen:

VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT LICENSEE EVENT REPORT PARTIAL FEEDWATER ISOLATION DUE TO INSTRUMENT MALFUNCTIONS

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.73, Georgia Power Company (GPC) hereby submits the enclosed report related to an event which occurred on April 29, 1992.

Sincerely,

C. K. McCoy

CKM/NJS

Enclosure: LER 50-425/1992-007

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

NORMS

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Mr. S. D. Ebneter, Regional Administrator

Mr. D. S. Hood, Licensing Project Manager, NRR

Mr. B. R. Bonser, Senior Resident Inspector, Vogtle

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This report is required because an unplanned engineered safety feature (ESF) actuation occurred.

ABSTRACT (16)

On April 29, 1992, steam generator (SG) level transmitter 2LT-539 was out of service for repairs, and the channel had been placed in the tripped condition as required by the Technical Specifications (TS). At 1346 EDT, another level transmitter channel, 2LT-553, momentarily spiked offscale high. This satisfied the 2 out of 4 logic for high-high water level and caused a main feedwater system isolation (FWI). The main feedwater and condensate system was in the long cycle recirculation mode, and all the feedwater regulating valves closed. The auxiliary feedwater (AFW) system, which had been supplying water to the SGs, remained in service to supply feedwater. Control room personnel reacted to maintain normal SG water levels, and long cycle recirculation was reestablished.

An investigation revealed that a drain valve for level transmitter 2LT-553 was partially open, and water was dripping from around a drain plug. The valve was closed, the plug tightened, and no further instrument spiking has been experienced. Prior to the next refueling outage, procedural controls will be strengthened to ensure proper positioning of SG instrument drain valves before their return to service at the end of refueling outages.

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A. REQUIREMENT FOR REPORT

This report is required per 10 CFR 50.73 (a)(2)(iv) because an unplanned engineered safety feature (ESF) actuation occurred when the main feedwater system isolated.

B. UNIT STATUS AT TIME OF EVENT

At the time of this event, Unit 2 was in Mode 3 (hot standby) at 0 percent of rated thermal power. Other than that described herein, there was no inoperable equipment which contributed to the occurrence of this event.

C. DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

On April 29, 1992, steam generator (SG) level transmitter 2LT-539 was out of service for repairs, and the channel had been placed in the tripped condition as required by the Technical Specifications (TS). At 1346 EDT, another level transmitter channel, 2LT-553, momentarily spiked offsc le high. This satisfied the 2 out of 4 logic for high-high water level and caused a main feedwater system isolation (FWI). The main feedwater and condensate system was in the long cycle recirculation mode, and all the feedwater regulating valves closed. The auxiliary feedwater (AFW) system, which had been supplying water to the SGs, remained in service to supply feedwater. Control room personnel reacted to maintain normal SG water levels, and long cycle recirculation was reestablished.

D. CAUSE OF EVENT

An investigation revealed that a drain valve for level transmitter 2LT-553 was partially open and water was dripping from around a drain plug. The valve was closed, the plug tightened, and no further instrument spiking has been experienced. The valve and drain plug were apparently not properly positioned upon return to service of the transmitter following tubing replacement during the refueling outage.

E. ANALYSIS OF EVENT

Following the instrument spiking, a FWI occurred as designed when the 2 out of 4 logic had been met. This ensured that the proper ESF response would have taken place had an actual SG high-high water level condition existed. Based on this consideration, there was no adverse effect on plant safety or the health and safety of the public as a result of this event.

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F. CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

- The drain valve for level transmitter 2LT-553 was closed, the drain plug tightened, and no further instrument spiking has been experienced. Instrument tubing for the other SGs was inspected, and leaks corrected as necessary.
- 2. Prior to the next refueling outage, procedural controls will be enhanced to ensure proper positioning of SG instrument drain valves before their return to service at the end of refueling outages.

G. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. Failed Components

None

2. Previous Similar Events

None

3. Energy Industry Identification System Code

Main Feedwater System - SJ Auxiliary Feedwater System - BA