

September 22, 1995

EA 95-167

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. 50-321/95-17 AND 50-366/95-17 AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Beckham:

This refers to the inspection conducted on July 5 through August 15, 1995, at the Hatch facility. The inspection included a review of the Low Pressure Coolant Injection (LPCI) inboard injection motor-operated valve failures which occurred on May 19, June 18, and July 2, 1995, and your associated failure investigation and analyses. The results of the inspection was sent to you by letter dated August 24, 1995. A closed predecisional enforcement conference was conducted in the Region II office on September 13, 1995, to discuss the apparent violation, the root causes, and your corrective actions to preclude recurrence. A list of attendees, NRC slides, and a copy of your conference handout are enclosed.

Based on the information developed during the inspection and additional information you provided at the conference, the NRC has determined that a violation of NRC requirements occurred. The violation is cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice) and the circumstances surrounding it are described in detail in the subject inspection report. The violation is of concern because, although you had previously identified a condition adverse to quality associated with testing of the LPCI valves, you failed to pursue the matter and to act in a timely and conservative manner to ensure comprehensive corrective actions were implemented. Further, NRC prompting was required for you to fully resolve the effect of check valve leakage on your pressure locking evaluations for the LPCI and containment spray valves. Even after NRC involvement, your initial calculations contained errors and it was not until further investigation and discussion with the appropriate vendors that you established that the original design and testing of the valves encompassed the reactor coolant pressure conditions in the range of concern. Although this matter did not have a significant consequence to safety, your engineering staff's pursuit of corrective actions was not representative of the thoroughness and expediency expected for issues that are potentially important to safety. Consequently, the enclosed violation is more than a minor concern and if left uncorrected, could become a significant concern. Similar performance in the future may result in escalated enforcement action.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your

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these matters was not representative of the thoroughness and expediency with which NRC expects licensees to address issues important to safety.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. Your response may reference or include previous docketed correspondence, if the correspondence adequately addresses the required response. After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions and the results of future inspections, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosures, and your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR). To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction.

The response directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedure of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Pub. L. No. 96.511.

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 A. F. GIBSON)

Albert F. Gibson, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-321, 50-366
License Nos. DPR-57, NPF-7

Enclosures: 1. Notice of Violation
2. List of Attendees
3. Predecisional Enforcement
Conference Handouts
4. NRC Slides

cc w/encls: (See page 3)

(cc w/encls cont'd)
 Ernie Toupin
 Manager of Nuclear Operations
 Oglethorpe Power Corporation
 2100 E. Exchange Place
 Tucker, GA 30085-1349

Charles A. Patrizia, Esq.
 Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker
 12th Floor
 1050 Connecticut Avenue, NW
 Washington, D. C. 20036

Distribution w/encls:

- K. N. Jabbour, NRR
- J. Lieberman, OE
- P. H. Skinner, RII
- R. V. Crlenjak, RII
- G. A. Hallstrom, RII
- OE; EA file (BSummers) (2)

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NRC Senior Resident Inspector
 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 11030 Hatch Parkway North
 Baxley, GA 31513

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NAME	EGirard	MShymlock	RCrlenjak	BUryc	CCasto	CEvans
DATE	09 20 / 95	09 20 / 95	09 / / 95	09 / / 95	09 20 / 95	09 / / 95
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County Courthouse
Baxley, GA 31513

Ernie Toupin
Manager of Nuclear Operations
Oglethorpe Power Corporation
2100 E. Exchange Place
Tucker, GA 30085-1349

Charles A. Patrizia, Esq.
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NAME	EGIRARD	MSHYMLOCK	CCASTO	RCRLENJAK	BUEYIC	CEVANS
DATE	9/ /95	9/ /95	3/ /95	3/ /95	9/ /95	9/ /95
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(*) SEE PREVIOUS CONCURRENCES

Lieberman concurrence by phone on 9/22/95

(cc w/encls cont'd)

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 Appling County Commissioners
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NAME	EGirard	MShymlock	RCrienjak	BUryc	CCaeto	CEvans		
DATE	09/21/95	09/21/95	09/21/95	09/ /95	09/ /95	09/ /95		
COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO		

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