

September 27, 1984

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-84-64

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region II staff on this date.

FACILITY: Georgia Power Company
Hatch Unit 2
Docket No. 50-366
Baxley, Georgia

Licensee Emergency Classification:
 Notification of Unusual Event
 Alert
 Site Area Emergency
 General Emergency
 Not Applicable

SUBJECT: OPERABILITY CONCERN REGARDING THE RESIDUAL HEAT REMOVAL (RHR) SERVICE WATER SYSTEM PUMPS

On September 25, 1984, the licensee informed the NRC that an inconsistency exists between the strength of the bolt materials assumed in the seismic analysis and those actually installed in the four residual heat removal (RHR) system service water pumps - two per loop. This raises a concern regarding the evaluated impact on RHR system operability during an Operating Basis Earthquake (OBE) in that the installed bolts could experience stresses in excess of yield if the pumps were operating during an OBE. This calculated overstress condition would result because the licensee relocated a large seismic restraint to facilitate pump maintenance on Unit 2. The licensee reports that this modification was not performed on Unit 1 and that Unit 1 is not affected by this concern.

The licensee is replacing the bolts on all four pumps on an expedited basis and has completed the bolt replacement on a pump in one subsystem. The licensee expects to have bolt replacement completed on one pump in the second subsystem by midnight on September 27. All four pumps are expected to have bolts replaced by 6 p.m. (EDT) on October 2, 1984.

The licensee has submitted information to the staff which shows that continued power operation during bolt replacement is a safe course of action. This is primarily because the pumps are not operated during power operation. Under this circumstance, no operating stresses, the earthquake stresses are well below the yield stress of the installed bolts.

The NRC has reviewed the licensee's course of action and concurs with the safety of these actions.

Media interest is not expected. Neither the NRC nor the licensee plans to issue a news release.

The State of Georgia has been informed.

This information is current as of 8:00 a.m. (EDT) on September 27.

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