

SEP 11 1992

Official

Docket Nos. 50-321, 50-366
License Nos. DPR-57, NPF-5
EA 92-149

Georgia Power Company
ATTN: Mr. W. G. Hairston, III
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Operations
P. O. Box 1295
Birmingham, AL 35201

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF VIOLATION AND ENFORCEMENT CONFERENCE
SUMMARY (NRC INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 50-321/92-18
AND 50-366/92-18)

This refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. L. Wert on July 5 - August 15, 1992. 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 report. The report documenting this inspection was sent to you by letter dated August 26, 1992.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) concerns relative to the inspection findings were also discussed in an enforcement conference held on September 8, 1992, at the Region II office in Atlanta, Georgia. A summary of this enforcement conference is enclosed.

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.

Based on the results of this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements. On July 12, 1992, the plant equipment operator who had immediate responsibility for monitoring plant conditions associated with the Unit 2 battery chargers did not identify an out of specification voltage reading. This condition was not identified until approximately 11:00 a.m. on July 13. In addition, the operator and the shift supervisor did not identify this condition during their review of the records. The NRC is concerned about the failure of your personnel to identify this problem and believes that there were ample opportunities to identify this condition. However, the Event Review Team that performed the investigation into this issue did a commendable job in identifying other problems which occurred during this incident. Corrective actions have been initiated which will contribute to improved operation of the 125/250 VDC system. The safe operation of a nuclear facility depends on constant attention to reactor operating conditions and assessment of abnormal conditions. The information

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provided in the enforcement conference identified that the battery would still perform its safety functions although it had decreased its total capacity, therefore the safety significance of this problem was limited. Based on the limited safety significance of this issue, the violations in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice) have been categorized at Severity Level IV.

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. After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions and the result 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 and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

The responses directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Act of 1980, Pub. L. No. 96-511.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:
Ellis W. Merschoff

Ellis W. Merschoff, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. Enforcement Conference
Summary
3. Enforcement Conference
Presentation Material
4. List of Attendees

cc w/encls:

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cc: w/encls: (See page 3)

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