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SEP 10 1992

Docket Nos. 50-424, 50-425  
License Nos. NPF-68, NPF-81  
EA 92-156

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. 50-424/92-19  
AND 50-425/92-19)

This refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. B. R. Bonser on August 7-18, 1992. The inspection included a review of activities authorized for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant. 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 21, 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 August 7, 1992, the licensed control room operator who had immediate responsibility for monitoring plant conditions in the "at the controls area" left the designated area for a brief period (less than one minute) which resulted in no operations personnel being at the controls during operation of the facility. The safe operation of a nuclear facility requires the constant attention of licensed operators to reactor operating conditions and prompt action to certain events. Your management and supervisors' tolerance of informality in control room activities resulted in a situation where this constant attention was briefly

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lacking. This is a serious concern to the NRC. Because the immediate supervisor recognized the significance of this occurrence and took prompt action, the reporting of this to the NRC and action taken by management, 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,

*Orig signed by E. Merschoff*

Ellis 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: See page 3

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cc w/encls: See page 4

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