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Georgia Power

the southern electric system

NED-85-057
0444y

February 15, 1985

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attention: Mr. John F. Stolz, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch No. 4
Division of Licensing
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

NRC DOCKETS 50-321, 50-366
OPERATING LICENSES DPR-57, NPF-5
EDWIN I. HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2
DELETION OF PROVISION TO BYPASS HIGH DRYWELL PRESSURE SCRAM

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 50.90 as required by 10 CFR 50.59(c) (1), Georgia Power Company hereby proposes a change to the Technical Specifications, Appendix A to Operating Licenses DPR-57 and NPF-5.

The proposed change, which applies to both Hatch units, would remove provisions allowing bypass of the high drywell pressure scram signal for the purpose of containment inerting and de-inerting. The scram is otherwise required to be functional at all times during power operation and hot standby. The affected Technical Specifications are Table 3.1-1 item 5 for Unit 1 and Table 3.3.1-1 note g for Unit 2. The Specification was initially provided to facilitate rapid inerting by allowing cycles of drywell pressurization with nitrogen followed by purging, until oxygen levels were reduced to within Technical Specification limits.

A torus shell analysis was performed as part of the Mark I Containment long term program. This analysis showed significant increases in torus shell stress levels for small or intermediate breaks occurring with drywell pressure above the 2 psig scram setpoint. Since previously calculated torus shell stress levels (assuming initial drywell pressure under 2 psig) were near code allowable values, it was determined that operation at elevated drywell pressures was not desirable for any length of time. Plant procedures were subsequently modified to remove provisions for bypass of this scram signal for the purpose of containment inerting and de-inerting. The proposed change would revise the Technical Specifications to be consistent with these modified plant procedures and the torus shell analysis performed as part of the Mark I long term program.

The Plant Review Board and Safety Review Board have reviewed the proposed change and determined that it does not involve an unreviewed safety question. The probabilities and consequences of analyzed accidents are not

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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
February 15, 1985
Page 2

increased by this change. Deletion of the ability to bypass this scram signal results in a more restrictive mode of operation and is consistent with the accident analysis, which does not assume that the signal is bypassed as an initial condition. No new types of accidents are created by this change since it involves a more restrictive mode of operation than previously allowed. The margin of safety as defined in the Technical Specifications is not decreased by the proposed change.

Attachment 1 details our analysis of no significant hazards for the proposed change.

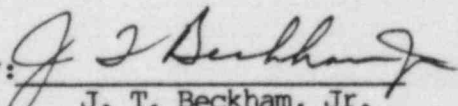
Payment of filing fee is enclosed.

In order to allow time for procedure revision and orderly incorporation into copies of the Technical Specifications, we request that the proposed amendment, once approved by the NRC, be issued with an effective date to be no later than 30 days from the date of issuance of the amendment.

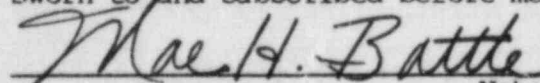
Pursuant to the requirements of 10 CFR 50.91, Mr. J. L. Ledbetter of the Environmental Protection Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources will be sent a copy of this letter and all applicable attachments.

J. T. Beckham, Jr. states that he is Vice President of Georgia Power Company and is authorized to execute this oath on behalf of Georgia Power Company, and that to the best of his knowledge and belief the facts set forth in this letter are true.

GEORGIA POWER COMPANY

By: 
J. T. Beckham, Jr.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 15th day of February, 1985.


Notary Public, Georgia, State at Large
My Commission Expires Sept. 18, 1987

Notary Public

REB/

Enclosures

xc: H. C. Nix, Jr.
Senior Resident Inspector
J. P. O'Reilly, (NRC-Region II)
J. L. Ledbetter

ENCLOSURE 1

NRC DOCKETS 50-321, 50-366
OPERATING LICENSES DP-57, NPF-5
EDWIN I. HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1 AND 2
DELETION OF ALLOWANCE TO BYPASS HIGH DRYWELL PRESSURE SCRAM

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.92, Georgia Power Company has evaluated the attached proposed amendment for plant Hatch Units 1 and 2 and has determined that its adoption would not involve a significant hazard. The basis for this determination is as follows:

PROPOSED CHANGE

Remove provisions in Unit 1 and 2 Technical Specifications which allow the high drywell pressure scram to be bypassed at power and in hot standby for the purpose of drywell inerting or de-inerting.

BASIS

This change constitutes an additional limitation, restriction or control not presently included in the Technical Specifications. Therefore, this change is consistent with Item (ii) of the "Examples of Amendments that are Considered Not Likely to Involve Significant Hazards Considerations" listed on page 14,870 of the Federal Register, April 6, 1983.