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Docket No. 50-321

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Mr. J. T. Beckham, Jr.
Vice President - Nuclear Generation
Georgia Power Company
P. O. Box 4545
Atlanta, Georgia 30302

Dear Mr. Beckham:

Re: Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, Unit No. 1

By letters dated December 6, December 10 and December 19, 1984, you provided information, your evaluations and corrective actions for the cracking identified in the primary system piping and the lower core spray sparger at Hatch Unit No. 1. Specifically, we were informed that one hundred percent (100%) of the circumferential and branch connection welds in the ASME Code Class 1 stainless steel portions of the Recirculation, Residual Heat Removal (RHR) and Reactor Water Cleanup Systems piping as well four (4) safe end-to-nozzle welds in the Recirculation System and two (2) jet pump instrumentation nozzle penetration seal-to-safe end welds were ultrasonically inspected and that cracking was identified from the inspection results in twenty-one welds in the Recirculation and RHR systems. Full strength structural weld overlays were applied to seventeen (17) of the more severely cracked welds.

In addition, we were informed that a single circumferential crack spanning at least 180° of the pipe circumference, with a maximum width of 0.010 inch was identified from visual examinations performed in accordance with I&E Bulletin 80-13 requirements on the lower core spray sparger and that a clamp was installed on the cracked sparger arm to assure that sparger integrity would be maintained.

We have reviewed the data and evaluations which you have provided in the above referenced letters and at our meetings of November 15 and 16, 1984. Our review concludes that all weld overlay designs are acceptable and that the remaining four (4) cracks (2 circumferential and 2 short axial) are acceptable for continued operation without repair during Cycle 9. Further, our review concludes that the cracked core spray sparger, with the clamp installed, can be safely operated and that the cooling function of the core spray system would not be degraded. Therefore, we find that, with respect to these issues, continued operation of Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, Unit No. 1 for Cycle 9 is acceptable.

We request that, per Generic letter No. 84-11, you provide us with a detailed plan, for our review and comment, regarding anticipated weld inspection activities during your next refueling outage. This material should be provided at least 30 days prior to the outage.

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Q PDR

Mr. J. T. Beckham, Jr.

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The Safety Evaluation which provides the basis for the above conclusions will be transmitted under separate cover.

Sincerely,

"ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:"

John F. Stolz, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #4
Division of Licensing

cc:
See next page

*Please see previous concurrence page.

ORB#4:DL

ORB#4:DL

MEB:DE

RHermann;cf*

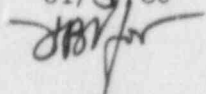
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Mr. J. T. Beckham, Jr.

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A copy of the Safety Evaluation supporting our system conclusions for the core spray sparger is enclosed. The Safety Evaluation which provides the basis for the engineering aspects for the above conclusions will be transmitted under separate cover.

Sincerely,

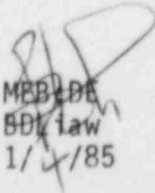
John F. Stolz, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #4
Division of Licensing

Enclosure:
Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosure:
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Hatch 1/2
Georgia Power Company

50-321/366

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