

SAFEGUARDS INFORMATION

Yellow

JUL 10 1984

Georgia Power Company
ATTN: Mr. R. J. Kelly
Executive Vice President
P. O. Box 4545
Atlanta, GA 30302

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: PROPOSED CIVIL PENALTY ACTION: EA 84-59
(REPORT NOS. 50-321/84-18 AND 50-366/84-18)

A special safeguards inspection was conducted by members of the NRC Region II staff on May 30, 1984 of activities authorized by MRC Operating License Nos. DPR-57 and NPF-5 at the Hatch facility. The findings were discussed with Mr. J. T. Beckham, Jr., Vice President and General Manager, Nuclear Operations, Georgia Power Company, and Mr. H. C. Nix, Site General Manager, Plant Hatch, at an Enforcement Conference held in the Region II Office on May 31, 1984.

The purpose of this inspection was to evaluate the significance of the licensee's failure to control access to the protected area. On May 22, 1984, access to the protected area was not controlled in that the security officer assigned to conduct searches of hand-carried items of personnel entering the protected area failed to conduct an adequate search of an employee's purse. The inadequate search resulted in the undetected introduction of a small loaded weapon into the protected area. Failure to provide access control to a protected area is a violation of regulatory requirements. The violation and related NRC concerns were discussed during an Enforcement Conference.

The violation relating to the failure to control access to protected areas that is identified in the enclosed Notice of Violation and Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalty has been categorized in accordance with NRC Enforcement Policy, 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C, as revised, 49-FR-8583 (March 8, 1984), as a Severity Level III violation (Supplement III). This violation is evidence of a security weakness. After consultation with the Director of the Office of Inspection and Enforcement, I have been authorized to issue the enclosed Notice of Violation and Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalty in the amount of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000). The base penalty of Fifty Thousand Dollars was increased by twenty percent because it is the second violation in the area of access control at Hatch plant in the past year. Had the licensee devoted sufficient attention to this area, this violation could have been prevented. We propose to impose this Civil Penalty to emphasize the need for Georgia Power Company to ensure that its security personnel adhere to establish procedural requirements.

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Georgia Power Company

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You are required to respond to the Notice of Violation. You should follow the instructions specified in the Notice when preparing your response and, in doing so, you should place all Safeguards Information as defined in 10 CFR 73.21 only in the enclosures, so as to allow your letter to be placed in the Public Document Room. In your reply you should give particular attention to describing those actions taken or planned to improve the effectiveness of the management of your security program, particularly with regard to training and performance of security personnel, that will assure continuing compliance with NRC requirements in this area. Your reply to the Notice and the results of future inspections will be considered in determining whether further enforcement action is appropriate.

The material enclosed contains Safeguards Information as defined by 10 CFR 73.21 and its disclosure to unauthorized individuals is prohibited by Section 147 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended. Therefore, the material, with the exception of the report cover page which is an inspection summary, will not be placed in the Public Document Room.

The responses directed by this letter and the enclosures are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget issued under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, we will be glad to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

James P. O'Reilly
Regional Administrator

Enclosure:
Notice of Violation and Proposed
Imposition of Civil Penalty
(Safeguards Information)

cc w/encl:
J. T. Beckham, Vice President and
General Manager, Nuclear Operations
H. C. Nix, Site General Manager
C. E. Belflower, Site QA Supervisor

bcc w/encl:
IE File
NMSS/SGPL
NRR/OL/SSPB
R. Rosano, IE

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