

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONGEORGIA POWER COMPANYDOCKET NO. 50-424NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OFNO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an exemption from the requirements of Section 50.46(a)(1) to 10 CFR Part 50 to the Georgia Power Company (the licensee) for the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Unit 1 located on the licensee's site in Burke County, Georgia.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action: The exemption would allow for a temporary relief from the provisions of 10 CFR 50.46(a)(1) with respect to the requirement that the emergency core cooling system (ECCS) performance be calculated on a plant specific basis using an approved ECCS evaluation model. The current calculated ECCS performance for the facility, as referenced in the Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR), is not based on the actual operating conditions for the facility. The temporary relief would allow continued operation of the facility until a revised calculated ECCS cooling performance has been completed with an approved ECCS model and actual facility operating conditions. During the duration of the temporary relief granted by the exemption, the heat flux hot channel factor,  $F_0$ , will be limited to a value of 2.25 at 100% power as compared to a value of 2.30 used in Technical Specification 3.2.2.

The Need for the Proposed Action: The proposed exemption is required to permit the licensee to continue operation of the facility.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action: With respect to the exemption, the restricted hot channel factor assures that even in the event of a large LOCA, ECCS performance will assure that calculated peak cladding temperatures will not exceed the limits of 10 CFR 50.46(b). Accordingly, the exemption will not increase the probability or consequences of any dominant reactor accident sequence and will not otherwise affect any other radiological impact associated with the facility. Consequently, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological impacts associated with the proposed exemption.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed exemption involves features located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed exemption.

Alternative to the Proposed Action: Because the staff has concluded that there is no significant environmental impact associated with the proposed exemption, any alternative to this exemption will have either no significantly different environmental impact or greater environmental impact.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested exemption. This would not reduce environmental impacts as a result of plant operations.

Alternative Use of Resources: This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in connection with the "Final Environmental Statement related to the operation of the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2" dated March 1985.

Agencies and Persons Consulted: The NRC staff has reviewed the licensee's request that supports the proposed exemption. The NRC staff did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption.

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant affect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the request for the exemption dated January 29, 1988, and supplemented by letter dated January 29, 1988, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., and at the Burke County Library, 4th Street, Waynesboro, Georgia 30830.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 10th day of February, 1988.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Kahtan Jabbour, Acting Director  
Project Directorate II-3  
Division of Reactor Projects I/II

\*SEE PREVIOUS CONCURRENCE

PDII-3/DRP-I/II\*  
MRood/mac  
02/08/88

PDII-3/DRP-I/II\*  
JHopkins  
02/08/88

OGC/WF\*  
02/09/88

*KWJ*  
PDII-3/DRP-I/II  
Acting PD  
02/10/88

For further details with respect to this action, see the request for the exemption dated January 29, 1988, and supplemented by letter dated January 29, 1988, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., and at the Burke County Library, 4th Street, Waynesboro, Georgia 30830.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this        day of        1988.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Jon B. Hopkins, Acting Director  
Project Directorate II-3  
Division of Reactor Projects I/II

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*Muller for*  
RDII-3/DRP-1/II  
MRood/mac  
02/8/88

*JHopkins*  
PDII-3/DRP-1/II  
JHopkins  
02/9/88

OGC/WF  
02/ /88

*KNS*  
PDII-3/DRP-1/II  
Acting PD  
02/9/88