

Official file

SEP 20 1988

Docket Nos. 50-321, 50-366
License Nos. DPR-57, NPF-5

Georgia Power Company
✓ ATTN: Mr. W. G. Hairston, III
Senior Vice President -
Nuclear Operations
P. O. Box 4545
Atlanta, GA 30302

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: SYSTEMATIC ASSESSMENT OF LICENSEE PERFORMANCE
(NRC INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 50-321/88-18 AND 50-366/88-18)

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Systematic Assessment of Licensee Performance (SALP) Board has completed its periodic evaluation of your Hatch facility for the period January 1, 1987, through June 30, 1988. The results of this evaluation are documented in the enclosed SALP Report. This report will be discussed with you at your Hatch facility in Baxley, Georgia, on September 30, 1988, at 10:00 a.m.

The performance of your Hatch facility was evaluated in the functional areas of plant operations, radiological controls, maintenance, surveillance, fire protection, emergency preparedness, security and safeguards, refueling/outages, quality programs and administrative controls affecting quality, licensing activities, and training and qualification effectiveness.

The overall performance of Hatch was satisfactory. Although management attention was evident and a number of specific improvements were made, an inconsistency was exhibited by the slight decline in overall SALP ratings. When compared to the last SALP report, performance ratings in the areas of security and licensing had improved while performance ratings had declined in the areas of fire protection, emergency preparedness, and training.

Several areas of concern exist for which we encourage continued management involvement to ensure an improvement in performance. Specifically, these areas of concern and recommendations are as follows:

- ° Management had not placed emphasis on ensuring that operators were well trained on the use of Emergency Operating Procedures (EOP) and on ensuring that the control room drawings and EOPs were readily useable by the operators for response to abnormal situations. We recognize that corrective actions have been initiated and in some cases completed; however, continued management attention on training operators on the use of the EOPs and on improving the EOPs is needed. We are also concerned that these weaknesses could be reflective of an overall management attitude that favors attention to routine operations rather than enhancing the operator's ability to respond to abnormal events.

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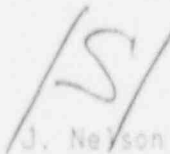
SEP 20 1988

- The number of reactor scrams, safety system failures, recurring events, and events for which the root cause could not conclusively be determined indicates the need for improvement of the programs for root cause identification and expeditious completion of corrective actions. We are also concerned with your response to known industry-identified problems, particularly in the area of check valve failures.
- The number of events caused by personnel and procedural errors is high. Therefore, we recommend that management place high priority in this area. Additionally, management should place high priority on completing the Procedure Upgrade Program which was begun late in 1985 to review procedures for technical adequacy and verify procedure usability.
- Management attention to fire protection activities may have declined as a result of the removal of Fire Protection Program details from the technical specifications. This action should not be construed as a reduction in significance, and management attention in this area should not be de-emphasized.
- Although the number of personnel contaminations received at Hatch in 1987 was sharply reduced, the number is still greater than the number received at most other Region II facilities. Continued management attention should also be given in this area.

Any comments you have concerning our evaluation of the performance of your facility should be submitted to this office within 30 days following the date of our meeting in Baxley, Georgia. Your comments; a summary of our September 30, 1988 meeting; and my disposition of your comments will be issued as appendices to the enclosed SALP Report.

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

Sincerely,



J. Nelson Grace
Regional Administrator

Enclosure:
SALP Report - Hatch

(cc w/encl - See page 3)

Georgia Power Company

3

cc w/encl:

- ✓ R. P. McDonald, Executive Vice President,
Nuclear Operations
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- ✓ H. C. Nix, General Manager
- ✓ O. M. Fraser, Site Quality Assurance Manager
- ✓ L. Gucwa, Manager, Nuclear Safety
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- S. B. Tipps, Manager, Nuclear Safety and Compliance
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bcc w/encl:

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