

June 17, 1988

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

Georgia Power Company  
ATTN: Mr. R. P. McDonald  
Executive Vice President -  
Nuclear Operations  
P. O. Box 4545  
Atlanta, GA 30302

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF VIOLATION  
(NRC INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 50-321/88-15 AND 50-366/88-15)

This refers to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Operational Performance Assessment (OPA) conducted by C. Julian and team on May 9 - 20 1988. The inspection evaluated the effectiveness of the Operations group and other plant groups in supporting safe plant operations at your Hatch facility. The findings of the inspection were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed inspection report on June 1 1988.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. Within these areas the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observation of activities in progress.

This was a performance based team assessment of plant Hatch which identified significant operational strengths and weaknesses, rather than a compliance oriented inspection. However, during the course of the inspection certain activities were noted which appeared to violate NRC requirements. The violations, references to pertinent requirements, and elements to be included in your response are described in the enclosed Notice of Violation. There is also an unresolved item identified in the inspection report which will be pursued during future inspections.

We believe that substantial enhancements were made to plant operations during the recent shutdown which improve safety and enhance the ability of the Operations staff to perform its job effectively. These enhancements include extensive training on the Emergency Operating Procedures (EOPs), improving the readability of the EOPs, consolidating drawing changes with the engineering drawings in the control room, improving plant labeling, decreasing the number of lighted annunciators, and emphasizing the need for operator professionalism. We strongly support these and other near-term improvements and we encourage aggressive implementation of your longer term enhancements.

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We also encourage more aggressive management attention to site quality improvement actions. We are concerned that you had failed to flag a number of Quality Assurance audit findings as significant. These findings included weaknesses regarding professional conduct in the control room, excessive administrative workload on the Shift Supervisor, timely incorporation of as-built-notices into the drawings available in the control room, technical deviations in the EOPs from the Emergency Procedure Guidelines (EPGs), the complexity and readability of the EOPs and fire brigade training. A fully effective Quality Assurance program and management followup would have resulted in more timely licensee-initiated programs to correct the above weaknesses.

In the area of EOPs we note that the technical bases for differences between the Hatch EOPs and the General Electric Owners Group EPGs are still not documented and the present EOPs are still complex and difficult to follow. Action should be taken on a priority basis to simplify the EOPs and to establish documentation of deviations. Your plans for completing this work will be discussed with the NRC in a management meeting in the near future.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice" Part 2 Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

The responses directed by this letter and its enclosures are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980 Pub. L. No. 96-511.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact us.

Sincerely,

(Original signed by J. Nelson Grace)

J. Nelson Grace  
Regional Administrator

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. NRC Inspection Report

cc w/encls:

J. T. Beckham, Vice President,  
Plant Hatch  
H. C. Nix, Plant Manager  
O. M. Fraser, Site Quality  
Assurance (QA) Supervisor  
L. Gucwa, Manager, Nuclear  
Safety and Licensing

bcc w/encl: (See page 3)

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Hugh S. Jordan  
NRC Resident Inspector  
Document Control Desk  
State of Georgia

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RButcher  
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