

Georgia Power Company
333 Piedmont Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia 30308
Telephone 404 526-3195

Mailing Address:
40 Inverness Center Parkway
Post Office Box 1295
Birmingham, Alabama 35201
Telephone 205 868-5581

The southern electric system

W. G. Hairston, III
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Operations

November 7, 1990

ELV-02231
0684

Docket No. 50-424

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D. C. 20555

Gentlemen:

VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT
LICENSEE EVENT REPORT
PERSONNEL ERROR LEADS TO A
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION VIOLATION

In accordance with 10 CFR 50.73, Georgia Power Company hereby submits the enclosed report related to an event which was discovered on October 8, 1990.

Sincerely,

W. G. Hairston III
W. G. Hairston, III

WGH, III/NJS/gm

Enclosure: LER 50-424/1990-020

xc: Georgia Power Company
Mr. C. K. McCoy
Mr. W. B. Shipman
Mr. P. D. Rushton
Mr. R. M. Odom
NORMS

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mr. S. D. Ebnetter, Regional Administrator
Mr. D. S. Hood, Licensing Project Manager, NRR
Mr. B. R. Bonser, Senior Resident Inspector, Vogtle

9011150127 901107
PDR ADOCK 05000424
S PIC

*TELL
11*

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

FACILITY NAME (1) VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT - UNIT 1										DOCKET NUMBER (2) 0 5 0 0 0 4 2 4				PAGE (3) 1 of 3			
TITLE (4) PERSONNEL ERROR LEADS TO A TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION VIOLATION																	
EVENT DATE (5)			LER NUMBER (6)				REPORT DATE (7)			OTHER FACILITIES INVOLVED (8)							
MONTH	DAY	YEAR	YEAR	SEQ NUM	REV	MONTH	DAY	YEAR	FACILITY NAMES				DOCKET NUMBER(S)				
0 8	0 8	9 0	9 0	0 2 0	0 0	1 1	0 7	9 0					0 5 0 0 0				
OPERATING MODE (9)		THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR (11)															
1		20.402(b)				20.405(c)				50.73(a)(2)(iv)				73.71(b)			
POWER LEVEL		1 0 0				20.405(a)(1)(i)				50.36(c)(1)				50.73(a)(2)(v)		73.71(c)	
		20.405(a)(1)(ii)				50.36(c)(2)				50.73(a)(2)(vii)				OTHER (Specify in			
		20.405(a)(1)(iii)				X 50.73(a)(2)(i)				50.73(a)(2)(viii)(A)				Abstract below)			
		20.405(a)(1)(iv)				50.73(a)(2)(ii)				50.73(a)(2)(viii)(B)							
		20.405(a)(1)(v)				50.73(a)(2)(iii)				50.73(a)(2)(x)							
LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER (12)																	
NAME										TELEPHONE NUMBER							
R. M. ODOM, NUCLEAR SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE										AREA CODE		404 826-3201					
COMPLETE ONE LINE FOR EACH FAILURE DESCRIBED IN THIS REPORT (13)																	
CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFAC-TURER	REPORT TO NPRDS		CAUSE	SYSTEM	COMPONENT	MANUFAC-TURER	REPORT TO NPRDS							
SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT EXPECTED (14)												EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE (15)		MONTH	DAY	YEAR	
<input type="checkbox"/> YES (If yes, complete EXPECTED SUBMISSION DATE)												<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO					
ABSTRACT (16)																	

On 8-8-90, an electrician was performing monthly preventive maintenance (PM) on battery bank 1CD1B in the 125 volt DC Class 1E electrical system. Several parameters on each battery cell were measured and recorded on the "Battery Maintenance Data Sheet" attached to the PM work order. The PM was completed and signed-off as approved by the electrician's foreman.

On 10-8-90, the system engineer was reviewing the above mentioned work order and identified that the measured voltage of cell #35 was recorded as 2.12 volts. Technical Specification (TS) Table 4.8-2 requires the float voltage for each connected cell to be greater than or equal to 2.13 volts. Therefore, a violation of TS occurred when the voltage parameter had not been verified to be restored in the required time frame and the TS action statement was not implemented. Upon identification by the system engineer, the Shift Supervisor was advised of this condition and was informed that the float voltage of the battery cell involved had been found to be acceptable during two subsequent PM's on 8-29-90 and 10-2-90.

The cause of this event was a personnel error on the part of the electrician and the maintenance foreman. Although the voltage acceptance criteria identified in the TS was not met, the electrician and foreman erroneously approved the measurements. These individuals have been counseled regarding the importance of attention to detail.

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER) TEXT CONTINUATION

FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET NUMBER (2)	LER NUMBER (5)			PAGE (3)		
		YEAR	SEQ NUM	REV			
VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT - UNIT 1	0 5 0 0 0 4 2 4	9 0	0 2 0	0 0	2	OF	3

TEXT

A. REQUIREMENT FOR REPORT

This report is required per 10 CFR 50.73 (a)(2)(i) because the unit operated in a condition outside of Technical Specification (TS) requirements. A Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) action statement was not completed within the allowable time when a component (a battery cell) was outside of its operability requirements.

B. UNIT STATUS AT TIME OF EVENT

At the time of the occurrence of this event on 8-8-90, Unit 1 was operating in Mode 1 (Power Operation) at 100% of rated thermal power. Other than that described herein, there was no inoperable equipment which contributed to the occurrence of this event.

C. DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

On 8-8-90, an electrician was performing monthly preventive maintenance (PM) on battery bank 1CD1B in the 125 volt DC Class 1E electrical system per procedure 27915-C, "General Battery Maintenance". Several parameters on each battery cell were measured and recorded on the "Battery Maintenance Data Sheet" attached to the PM work order. The PM was completed and signed-off as approved by the electrician and foreman.

On 10-8-90, the system engineer was reviewing the above mentioned work order and identified that the measured voltage of cell #35 was recorded as 2.12 volts. Table 4.8-2 of the TS requires the float voltage for each connected cell to be greater than or equal to 2.13 volts. This table also allows float voltages between 2.10 volts and 2.13 volts provided that this parameter is restored to its 2.13 volt lower limit in 7 days. Otherwise, the TS 3.8.2.1 action statement applies as follows:

"With less than the above minimum required D. C. electrical sources OPERABLE restore the inoperable D. C. electrical sources to OPERABLE status within 2 hours or be in at least HOT STANDBY within the next 6 hours and in COLD SHUTDOWN within the following 30 hours."

Therefore, a violation of TS occurred on 8-15-90 when the voltage parameter had not been verified to be restored within 7 days and the TS 3.8.2.1 action statement was not implemented. Upon identification by the system engineer on 10-8-90, the Shift Supervisor was advised of this condition and was informed that the float voltage of the battery cell involved had been found to be acceptable during two subsequent PM's on 8-29-90 and 10-2-90.

D. CAUSE OF EVENT

The cause of this event was a cognitive personnel error on the part of the electrician and maintenance foreman. Although the voltage acceptance criteria identified in the TS and in the PM procedure was not met, they erroneously approved the measurements. This error was not the result of any unusual characteristics of the work location.

LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER) TEXT CONTINUATION

FACILITY NAME (1)	DOCKET NUMBER (2)	LER NUMBER (5)			PAGE (3)		
		YEAR	SEQ NUM	REV			
VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT - UNIT 1	0 5 0 0 0 4 2 4	9 0	0 2 0	0 0	3	OF	3

TEXT

E. ANALYSIS OF EVENT

Measurements taken, both prior to the 8-8-90 event and again on 8-29-90 and 10-2-90, indicated acceptable cell voltage values. Furthermore, due to the amount of data which must be transcribed during these monthly surveillances, we believe that the unacceptable float voltage recorded on 8-8-90 was the result of a transcription error and not a real problem with float voltage. Finally, the other three battery banks in the system remained operable during the period of time involved. Based on these considerations, there was no adverse effect on plant safety or public health and safety as a result of this event.

F. CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

1. The Georgia Power Company electrician and foreman involved have been counseled regarding the importance of attention to detail.
2. A memo has been sent to other appropriate personnel describing this event and the need for adequate reviews.
3. Battery cell #35 has been designated a pilot cell, which requires more frequent (weekly) testing. This will allow future problems with cell #35 to be identified sooner.
4. A review of the various surveillances and PMs which are required for the batteries is in progress in an effort to eliminate duplication and simplify data recording. This review will be completed and incorporated into procedures by 1-31-91.

G. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. Failed Components:

None

2. Previous Similar Events:

LER 50-424/1989-019, dated 1-2-90.

Corrective actions from this LER included personnel counseling and procedure enhancement.

3. Energy Industry Identification System Code:

125 volt DC Class 1E Electrical System - EJ