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USNRC REGION II  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

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Georgia Power

Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant

November 10, 1981  
PM-81-935

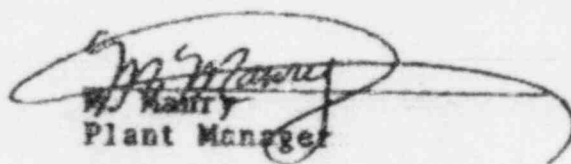
PLANT B. I. HATCH  
Licensee Event Report  
Docket No. 50-321

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
Region II  
Suite 3100  
101 Marietta Street  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303



ATTENTION: Mr. James P. O'Reilly

Pursuant to section 6.9.1.8.c of Hatch Unit 1 Technical Specifications, please find attached Reportable Occurrence Report # 50-321/1981-114.

  
W. J. Kelly  
Plant Manager

MM/CLC/pebc

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LER #: 50-321/1981-114  
Licensee: Georgia Power Company  
Facility Name: Edwin I. Hatch  
Docket #: 50-321

Narrative Report  
for LER 50-321/1981-114

On September 23rd while operating at 100% power, offgas levels as measured by the pretreatment monitor increased sharply. Though no Technical Specification limits were exceeded it was decided to drop power level to control the offgas rates. The de-rated operation continued until on October 9, the unit was shutdown to allow identification and removal of the leaking fuel assemblies.

Sipping of all 560 fuel assemblies identified 11 Reload 2 bundles which contained failed fuel rods. Several of these rods were inspected and it was determined that there was the appearance of accelerated corrosion of the cladding surface. On 10-29-81, a non-leaking bundle from the same batch as the leakers also exhibited similar corrosion. As the phenomena was not restricted to the leaker assemblies it was decided that a condition of abnormal cladding degradation existed.

Based on the inspection results of several of the Reload 2 fuel assemblies, the affected bundles have been determined to be unacceptable for use at this time and will be replaced. A representative sampling of the other fuel types with significant exposure has been inspected and are acceptable for continued use.

The affected fuel will be further studied in an effort to determine the failure mechanism and the Commission will be informed of any forthcoming conclusions.