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USNRC REGION II
ATLANTA, GEORGIA



April 29, 1982

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Georgia Power
the southern electric system

W. A. Widner
Vice President and General Manager
Fossil and Hydro Generation

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region II - Suite 3100
101 Marietta Street, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

REFERENCE:
RII: JPO
50-321/50-366
Inspection Report
82-10

ATTENTION: Mr. James P. O'Reilly

GENTLEMEN:

The following is submitted in response to Inspection Report 82-10, regarding the inspection performed on March 10-12, 1982 by Mr. W. H. Miller, Jr. of your office. One apparent violation was reported:

VIOLATION

Technical Specification 6.8.1.f requires written procedures to be established, implemented and maintained covering the fire protection program implementation.

1. Georgia Power Company Procedure HNP-555, Control of Ignition Sources, Section E.4 requires a "hot work permit" to be issued for each welding job at one location. During normal plant operation the permit shall be valid for one working shift.

Contrary to the above, on March 12, 1982, with Unit 1 in operation, three welding permits were found in Unit 1 which were issued for more than one shift. One permit in the reactor building and one in the control building was issued on February 2 and February 8, 1982, for the duration of the jobs and one permit in the reactor building was issued on March 9, 1982 to be effective for 11 days.

2. Georgia Power Company Procedure HNP-559, Control of Transient Combustibles, Section F requires the Senior Regulatory Specialist at Hatch to review all storage and proposed storage of combustible materials in safety related areas to determine if the storage will be acceptable, what additional fire protection features may be required and post an approved storage permit in the storage area.

Contrary to the above, on March 12, 1982, the Unit 1 reactor building HVAC equipment room contained an accumulation of combustible material consisting of contaminated filters, new filters, cardboard boxes, and miscellaneous debris which had not been reviewed by the Senior Regulatory Specialist and a storage permit had not been issued. This material had apparently been stored in this room for several months.

This is a Severity Level V Violation.

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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region II - Suite 3100
April 29, 1982
Page Two

82 MAY 4 A 8:34

RESPONSE

Admission or denial of violation: The violation occurred as stated.

Reasons for the violation: The violation involving both plant procedures HNP-555, Control of Ignition Sources, and HNP-559, Control of Transient Combustibles, has been attributed to personnel error.

The failure to comply with guidelines of HNP-555 was an isolated incident involving two (2) foremen; one for the permits issued on February 2 and February 8, 1982, and the other for the permit issued on March 9, 1982. After discussing the requirements of the procedure with the foremen, it was apparent that they did not fully understand the specific requirements as stated in Section E.4 of the procedure.

The incident involving HNP-559 was the result of work activities being performed in the HVAC equipment room and the resultant contaminated combustible material being stored in the area until it could either be decontaminated or removed to Radwaste for storage. Personnel performing the work activities were unaware of the requirements of Section F of HNP-559.

Corrective steps which have been taken and results achieved: The foremen responsible for erroneously issuing the HNP-555 "Hot Work Permits" were verbally reinstructed in the requirements of HNP-555, Section E.4, on March 12, 1982, the date the discrepancy was identified. Also these foremen were rescheduled to attend a formal classroom session for reinstruction in HNP-555. This classroom session was held on March 17, 1982.

The combustible material stored in the HVAC equipment room was removed and stored in an acceptable area. Twelve charcoal filter units remain in the area. A permit has been issued, as required by Section F of HNP-559, for this storage.

Corrective steps which will be taken to avoid further violations: Section E.4 of HNP-555 will be revised to more clearly state the requirement for duration of a "Hot Work Permit" by April 30, 1982.

An information letter will be published and distributed to supervisory personnel reminding them of the combustible storage requirements of HNP-559 by April 30, 1982.

Date when full compliance will be achieved: Foremen were reinstructed in the requirements of HNP-555 on March 17, 1982. Section E.4 will be revised by April 30, 1982. The information letter to supervisory personnel will be published and distributed by April 30, 1982.

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region II - Suite 3100
April 29, 1982
Page Three

If you have any questions regarding our response to Inspection Report 82-10, please contact our office.

W. A. Widner states that he is Vice President of Georgia Power Company and is authorized to execute this oath on behalf of Georgia Power Company, and that to the best of his knowledge and belief the facts set forth in this letter are true.

GEORGIA POWER COMPANY

By: W. A. Widner
W. A. Widner

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29th day of April, 1982

Mae H. Battle

Notary Public, Georgia, State at Large
My Commission Expires Sept. 20, 1983

Notary Public

JAE
JAE/mb

xc: H. C. Nix, Jr.
R. F. Rogers, III