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Georgia Power

(The Southern Electric System)

Power Generation Department

September 2, 1983

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Attention: Mr. John F. Stolz, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch No. 4
Division of Licensing
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

NED 83-458

NRC DOCKETS 50-321, 50-366
OPERATING LICENSES DPR-57, NPF-5
EDWIN I. HATCH NUCLEAR PLANT UNITS 1, 2
APRM/RBM/TECH SPEC (ARTS) PROGRAM

Gentlemen:

On February 16, 1983, representatives from Georgia Power Company (GPC) and General Electric Company (GE) made a technical presentation of the proposed APRM/RBM Technical Specification (ARTS) Improvement Program to the NRC Licensing Project Manager for Plant Hatch and several other staff members from the core physics group. As outlined at that meeting, the objectives of the improvement program are to 1) increase operating efficiency, 2) update thermal limits administration, 3) reduce fuel duty, 4) improve instrumentation response/accuracy and, 5) improve the man/machine interface.

By this letter, GPC is providing notice of our intent to move ahead with this program. We request that the NRC support implementation of these improvements by providing timely review of resulting proposed changes to the Technical Specifications.

GPC has been told that several discussions have occurred between GE and NRC upper management regarding personnel support for reviewing plant improvement programs. Consequently, GPC requests a commitment from the NRC to provide adequate resources to support the review of the Plant Hatch ARTS improvement program on a reasonable schedule. GPC believes this will be the first time this particular improvement program will have appeared on a docket. However, certain portions of the ARTS Program have been implemented by the BWR-6 product lines.

General Electric (GE) plans to submit to GPC by September 23, 1983, the results of analyses which support the implementation of this improvement program at Plant Hatch. GPC plans to complete its review and submit to the NRC any required changes to the Technical Specifications by mid-October. With favorable reviews and timely NRC action, GPC would implement these improvements on Hatch 1 Cycle 8 and Hatch 2 Cycle 5.

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If we can be of assistance in providing information for your review,
please contact this office at this address.

Very truly yours,

L. T. Gucwa

L. T. Gucwa
Manager of Nuclear Engineering
and Chief Nuclear Engineer

DLT/blm

xc: J. T. Beckham, Jr.
H. C. Nix, Jr.
Senior Resident Inspector - Plant Hatch