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Georgia Power
the southern electric system

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Docket No. 50-321

HL-4773

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

Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant - Unit 1
Special Report 1-95-001
Reactor Building Vent Plenum Post Accident Effluent
Monitor Inoperable For Greater Than Seven Days

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the requirements of Unit 1 Technical Specifications section 6.9.2 and table 3.2-11, Georgia Power Company is submitting the enclosed special report concerning the reactor building vent plenum effluent monitor which has been inoperable for longer than seven days.

Sincerely,

J. T. Beckham, Jr.

JKB/et

Enclosure: SR 50-321/1995-001

cc: *Georgia Power Company*
Mr. H. L. Sumner, Nuclear Plant General Manager
NORMS

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C.
Mr. K. Jabbour, Licensing Project Manager

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region II
Mr. S. D Ebneter, Regional Administrator
Mr. B. L. Holbrook, Senior Resident Inspector - Hatch

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Enclosure

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A. REQUIREMENT FOR REPORT

This report is required per Unit 1 Technical Specifications Table 3.2-11, item 17, note g.1.b. Specifically, this specification requires that in the event a Reactor Building Vent Plenum Post Accident Effluent Monitor is inoperable for greater than seven days, a Special Report is required within 14 days of the event. On 1/13/95 at 0215 EST, this monitor had been inoperable for seven days; therefore, this Special Report is required.

B. UNIT STATUS AT TIME OF EVENT

On 1/13/95 at 0214 EST, Unit 1 was in the Run mode at a power level of 2436 CMWT (100 percent rated thermal power).

C. DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

On 1/13/95 at 0215 EST, seven days had elapsed since Reactor Building Vent Plenum Post Accident Effluent Monitor 1D11-P601 had been declared inoperable. The monitor was first removed from service (and hence declared inoperable) on 1/6/95 to allow installation of a design change. During installation of the design change, the technician performing the work observed the monitor was displaying a microcomputer error code. The error code indicated that the flow transducer in the sampling system was inoperable. The flow transducer is essential for operation of the system because it provides confirmation to the system that sample flow is actually present. After the failure of the flow transducer, the system experienced a separate and unrelated problem in which the monitor failed to respond to commands from the input keyboard. The latter problem has since been resolved by replacing some of the electronic circuit boards. However, the flow transducer has not yet been repaired because it is obsolete and replacement parts are not available.

Per Unit 1 Technical Specifications Table 3.2-11, item 17, note g, a preplanned alternate method of monitoring the same parameter has been implemented. The preplanned alternate method requires use of the normal range Reactor Building Vent Plenum Effluent Radiation Monitors provided neither of these monitors is displaying a high radiation alarm. If either of these monitors alarms on high radiation, a separate preplanned alternate method is used requiring the collection and analysis of grab samples. These preplanned alternate methods are controlled per procedure 64CH-ADM-001-OS, "Chemistry Program."

D. CAUSE OF EVENT

The event occurred because of component failure. Specifically, the flow transducer failed, preventing the system from being returned to operable status. During the course of attempting to repair the flow transducer, some other components were found to have failed or degraded. However, these have been repaired or replaced as necessary.

E. CORRECTIVE ACTION

Several components in the system have been replaced or adjusted in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Circuit card connections have been cleaned and other checks have been made to ensure the electronic components are now working properly.

The Reactor Building Post Accident Effluent Monitor has not been returned to service because its flow transducer is not operable. The system will be restored to operable status as soon as a replacement flow transducer is available. A search for replacement parts for the obsolete transducer from the manufacturer or from other utilities will be complete by 3/31/95. If parts are not available, a design change will be initiated by 4/30/95 to replace the transducer with one of a different design. At that time, a schedule for design implementation, if necessary, will be forwarded as a revision to this special report.