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Georgia Power

the southern electric system

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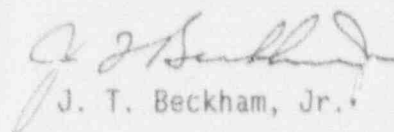
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

PLANT HATCH - UNIT 2
NRC DOCKET 50-366
OPERATING LICENSE NPF-5
SPECIAL REPORT 2-91-003
BATTERY POWERED EMERGENCY LIGHTING UNITS
INOPERABLE FOR A PERIOD GREATER THAN 72 HOURS

Gentlemen:

In accordance with Plant Hatch Unit 2 Technical Specifications section 6.9.2 and Appendix B of the Fire Hazards Analysis, Georgia Power Company is submitting the enclosed Special Report concerning battery powered emergency lighting units which were inoperable for a period greater than 72 hours.

Sincerely,


J. T. Beckham, Jr.

OCV/cr

Enclosure: Special Report 2-91-003

cc: Georgia Power Company
Mr. H. L. Sumner, General Manager - Nuclear Plant
Mr. J. D. Heidt, Manager Engineering and Licensing - Hatch
NORMS

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C.
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ENCLOSURE

PLANT HATCH - UNIT 2
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A. REQUIREMENT FOR REPORT

This report is required by Unit 2 Technical Specifications section 6.9.2. This section of the Technical Specifications states that Special Reports for fire protection equipment operating and surveillance requirements shall be submitted as required by the Fire Hazards Analysis (FHA) and its Appendix B requirements.

Appendix B, section 1.9.1 of the FHA states that emergency lighting equipment must be operable at all times. The Action Statement states that in the event a battery powered emergency lighting unit is inoperable for greater than 72 hours, a Special Report must be prepared and submitted to the Commission within 30 days. In the event described in this report, two battery powered emergency lighting units were inoperable for greater than 72 hours.

B. UNIT STATUS AT TIME OF EVENT

On 10/06/91, Unit 2 was in the Run mode at a power level of 2436 CMWT (100 percent rated thermal power).

C. DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

On 10/03/91, non-licensed maintenance personnel were performing surveillance procedure 42SV-FPX-003-US, "Emergency Lighting Surveillance." This involved an inspection of the physical condition of indicating lamps, electrolyte level, etc., as well as an 8-hour battery discharge test which is performed on one-third of the lighting units every 120 days, such that all the lights are tested at least once per year. The inspection is required by the Fire Hazards Analysis, Appendix B, section 2.9.1.a. The 8-hour battery discharge test is required by the Fire Hazards Analysis, Appendix B, section 2.9.1.b.

During performance of the battery discharge test, two of the emergency lighting units, 2R42-E015 and -E057, failed to illuminate for 8 hours as required. Deficiency Cards (DCs) 2-91-4046 and -4047 were written to document the failure of the subject lights and initiate corrective actions. Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO) 2-91-643 was initiated on 10/03/91, at 1530 CDT, by licensed Operations personnel to track corrective actions and to ensure compliance with the FHA. However, for reasons given later in

ENCLOSURE (Continued)

SPECIAL REPORT 2-91-003 BATTERY POWERED EMERGENCY LIGHTING UNITS INOPERABLE FOR A PERIOD GREATER THAN 72 HOURS

this report, the affected lighting units could not be restored to their operable status within the 72-hour period allowed by the FHA, Appendix B, section 1.9.1. DC 2-91-4082 was written to document the fact that the two emergency lighting units remained inoperable for greater than 72 hours. Nonconformances and corrective actions are tabulated below:

LIGHT NUMBER	AREA SERVED	DATE FAILED	DATE RESTORED	DEFICIENT CONDITION	CORRECTIVE ACTION
2R42-E015	Turbine Bldg., 164' elevation, Northeast hallway	10/3/91	10/7/91	Failed 8-hour battery dschg. test	Replaced battery per MWO 2-91-4035
2R42-E057	Reactor Bldg., 130' elevation, West stairway area	10/3/91	10/7/91	Failed 8-hour battery dschg. test	Tightened loose connections on battery terminals per MWO 2-91-4034

Following completion of repairs on the failed lighting units and the satisfactory completion of testing per procedure 42SV-FPX-003-0S, they were restored to operable status by 10/07/91, at 1230 CDT, and LCO 2-91-643 was terminated at that time.

D. CAUSE OF EVENT

In this event, efforts were made to repair and restore the affected lights to an operable status within the required 72-hour period. The documentation necessary to correct these deficiencies was walked-through by personnel involved in order to expedite the work. However, due to the time involved in effecting repairs (i.e., 24 hours for charging of battery units, 8 hours for conducting a battery discharge test, 24 hours for recharging and some amount of time required for parts check-out and repair), the subject lights could not be restored within the required 72-hour period.

ENCLOSURE (Continued)

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E. ANALYSIS OF EVENT

The battery powered emergency lighting units are designed to provide illumination for certain pieces of equipment in the event of a fire concurrent with a Loss Of Offsite Power (LOSP). During an LOSP, the automatic load shedding function of the emergency diesel generators will disconnect power to various areas of normal plant lighting, thereby triggering the emergency lights. The tabulation above shows the affected areas that the battery powered emergency lighting units were intended to illuminate.

In the event that the normal building lights for the affected areas are extinguished and the emergency lighting units fail to operate, plant operators can use flashlights for any required emergency operations. Procedure 34GO-OPS-030-2S, "INSIDE DAILY ROUNDS," requires plant operators to carry flashlights with them during their daily rounds. Also, flashlights are available continually in the Maintenance Tool Storage Area for use during emergencies.

Based on the above analysis, it is concluded that this event had no adverse impact on nuclear safety.

F. CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

The affected battery powered emergency lighting units were repaired under MWOs 2-91-4034 and -4035. These lights were verified operable by performing an 8-hour very discharge test in accordance with the requirements of the FHA Appendix section 2.9.1.b.