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D. O. Foster
Vice President and Project
General Manager
Vogtle Project

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Georgia Power
the southern electric system

November 13, 1984

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region II - Suite 2900
101 Marietta Street, Northwest
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

Reference:
RII: JPO:
50-424, 50-425

File: X7BC24
Log: GN-438

Attention: Mr. James P. O'Reilly

By letter dated July 10, 1984 (File: X7BC24, Log: GN-386), Georgia Power Company originally addressed issues raised in I&E Bulletin 84-02, entitled "Failures of General Electric Type HFA Relays in Use in Class 1E Safety System." The purpose of this letter is to provide you with further information regarding Georgia Power Company's review of the utilization of these relays.

At Georgia Power Company's instructions, Westinghouse Power Corporation has performed a review of similar relays, specifically relays performing similar functions as do the GE HFA relays and which use similar materials. As a result of this review, Westinghouse has reported that AC and DC relays used in the Reactor Protection System contain parts made from Lexan and Nylon materials. These relay components include contact actuating arms, relay coil terminal strips, relay covers, and coil bobbins.

After evaluation of relays containing these materials, Westinghouse has reported that there is no evidence that the relays used in the Reactor Protection System are prone to the types of malfunction and failures experienced by GE relays and noted in I&E Bulletin 84-02. The Westinghouse evaluation establishes that the relays used in the Reactor Protection System differ significantly from the GE relays in the composition of the Lexan/Nylon materials and in the operating temperature to which the relays will be subjected. The difference in temperatures is attributable to the fact that the Reactor Protection System instrumentation and control circuitry is located in the Control Room.

Georgia Power Company will conduct periodic surveillance tests of the Westinghouse relays. These tests will insure that malfunctioning relays will be detected and repaired or replaced, as necessary, in order to insure reliable and functional performance of the system.

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This response contains no proprietary information and may be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Very truly yours,

D. O. Foster

REF/DOF/tdm

D. O. Foster states that he is the Vice President and Project General Manager of the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant 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.

GPC:

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 13th day of November, 1984.

Jacqueline R. Smith
Notary Public, State of Georgia at Large
My Commission Expires: 4/11/88

xc: U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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