

Georgia Power Company
40 Igouess Center Parkway
Post Office Box 1295
Birmingham, Alabama 35201
Telephone 205 877-7279

J. T. Beckham, Jr.
Vice President - Nuclear
Hatch Project

February 20, 1996



Docket No. 50-321

HL-5110

TAC No. M91091

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

Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant - Unit 1
Resolution of Issue of Conformance Relative to
Core Shroud Stabilizer Design

Gentlemen:

By letters dated January 19, 1995; April 18, 1995; and June 6, 1995, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requested Georgia Power Company (GPC) to provide additional information regarding the estimated size of small gaps that might potentially develop at the lower shroud welds during normal operation. By letters to the NRC dated February 20, 1995; May 18, 1995; and June 21, 1995, GPC provided the requested information. By letter dated August 10, 1995, the NRC issued a Supplemental Safety Evaluation Report (SER) which concluded that the postulated existence of a calculated gap has no adverse impact on plant safety.

The Supplemental SER contained a provision to resolve the issue of conformance with industry repair criteria prior to startup from the upcoming Unit 1 Spring 1996 refueling outage scheduled to commence on March 23, 1996, and prior to implementation of the NRC-approved Unit 1 Power Uprate Program. GPC analyzed the available options for preventing shroud horizontal weld separation during normal operating conditions and determined that the most desirable option is to increase the shroud stabilizer tie rod mechanical preload by applying additional torque to the tie rod nut. The additional torque was evaluated and the additional mechanical preload ensures that the industry repair criteria of no gaps during normal operation will be satisfied while maintaining allowable stress limits. The evaluations include power uprate conditions. The increase in mechanical preload will be implemented during the Spring 1996 Unit 1 refueling outage.

If you have any questions or concern regarding this matter, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

260065

J. T. Beckham, Jr.

JKB/eb

9602270252 960220
PDR ADOCK 05000321
P PDR

ADD 1/0

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Page 2

February 20, 1996

cc: Georgia Power Company

Mr. H. L. Sumner, Jr., Nuclear Plant General Manager
NORMS

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

Mr. K. Jabbour, Licensing Project Manager - Hatch

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region II

Mr. S. D. Ebnetter, Regional Administrator

Mr. B. L. Holbrook, Senior Resident Inspector - Hatch