

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Georgia Power Company
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant

Docket No. 50-424
License No. NPF-68
EA 93-304

During an NRC inspection conducted from August 6, 1990 to August 17, 1990 and an NRC investigation completed on December 17, 1993, violations of NRC requirements were identified. In accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission proposes to impose [REDACTED] pursuant to Section 234 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (Act), 42 U.S.C. 2282, and 10 C.F.R. 2.205. The particular violations [REDACTED] are set forth below:

10 CFR 50.9(a) requires that information provided to the NRC by a licensee shall be complete and accurate in all material respects.

[REDACTED] an April 9, 1990 letter

[REDACTED] states that: "Since March 20, the 1A DG has been started 18 times, and the 1B DG has been started 19 times. No failures or problems have occurred during any of these starts."

[REDACTED] Start 132 tripped on high temperature lube oil, Start 134 tripped on low pressure jacket water and Start 136 had a high temperature jacket water trip alarm. As of April 9, 1990, the 1B DG had only 12 consecutive successful starts without problems or failures rather than the 19 represented by GPC. The same inaccuracy was presented to the NRC at its Region II Office during an oral presentation by GPC on April 9, 1990.

[REDACTED] In considering a restart decision, the NRC was especially interested in the reliability of the DGs and specifically asked that GPC address the matter in its presentation on restart. The NRC relied, in part, upon this information presented by GPC on April 9, 1990 in the oral presentation and in the GPC letter in reaching the NRC decision to allow Vogtle Unit 1 to return to power operation.

[REDACTED] an April 9, 1990 letter

[REDACTED] states, when discussing the air quality of the DG starting air system at the Vogtle facility, that: "GPC has reviewed air quality of the D/G air system including dewpoint control and has

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in accordance with the Freedom of Information
Act, exemptions 5, 7C, and 95-81
FOIA

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concluded that air quality is satisfactory. Initial reports of higher than expected dewpoints were later attributed to faulty instrumentation."

[REDACTED] actual high dew points had occurred at the Vogtle facility. [REDACTED] the causes of those high dew points included failure to use air dryers for extended periods of time and repressurization of the DG air start system receivers following maintenance.

[REDACTED] In considering a restart decision, the NRC was especially interested in the reliability of the DGs and specifically asked that GPC address the matter in its presentation on restart. The NRC relied, in part, upon this information presented by GPC in its letter of April 9, 1990 in reaching the decision to allow Vogtle Unit 1 to return to power operation.

[REDACTED] a Licensee Event Report (LER), dated April 19, 1990, [REDACTED] states: "Numerous sensor calibrations (including jacket water temperatures), special pneumatic leak testing, and multiple engine starts and runs were performed under various conditions. After the 3-20-90 event, the control systems of both engines have been subjected to a comprehensive test program. Subsequent to this test program, DG1A and DG1B have been started at least 18 times each and no failures or problems have occurred during any of these starts."

[REDACTED] an LER cover letter dated June 29, 1990 [REDACTED]

The letter states that: "In accordance with 10 CFR 50.73, Georgia Power Company (GPC) hereby submits the enclosed revised report related to an

event which occurred on March 20, 1990. This revision is necessary to clarify the information related to the number of successful diesel generator starts as discussed in the GPC letter dated April 9, 1990...."

The letter states that: "If the criteria for the completion of the test program is understood to be the first successful test in accordance with Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (VEGP) procedure 14990-1 "Diesel Generator Operability Test," then there were 10 successful starts of Diesel Generator 1A and 12 successful starts of Diesel Generator 1B between the completion of the test program and the end of April 19, 1990, the date the LER-424/1990-06 was submitted to the NRC. The number of successful starts included in the original LER (at least 18) included some of the starts that were part of the test program. The difference is attributed to diesel start record keeping practices and the definition of the end of the test program."

[REDACTED] a letter dated August 30, 1990 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

The letter states that: "The confusion in the April 9th letter and the original LER appear to be the result of two factors. First, there was confusion in the distinction between a successful start and a valid test... Second, an error was made by the individual who performed the count of DG starts for the NRC April 9th letter."

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Dated at Rockville, Maryland
this day of May, 1994

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----- COMPARISON OF HEADERS -----

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