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Georgia Power

the southern electric system

July 8, 1985

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
Region II - Suite 2900  
101 Marietta Street, NW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

REFERENCE:  
RII: JNG  
50-321/50-366  
Inspection Report  
85-15

ATTENTION: Dr. J. Nelson Grace

GENTLEMEN:

The referenced inspection report transmitted by letter of June 14, 1985, identified a violation of NRC requirements. We have reviewed the violation and offer the following response.

VIOLATION

Technical Specification 6.8.1 requires that written procedures be established, implemented and maintained covering the applicable procedures recommended in Appendix A of Regulatory Guide 1.33, Revision 2, February 1978.

Regulatory Guide 1.33 requires radiation protection procedures including procedures for contamination control.

Plant procedure HNP-8161, Eberline Model PCM-1 Portal Monitor Operation and Calibration, Section (G)(3)(i), requires that the detector high voltage be increased to a value which is midway on the measured beta plateau. The Eberline Model PCM-1 is an instrument used to frisk personnel for contamination.

Contrary to the above, the licensee failed to meet the procedural requirement to increase the detector high voltage to a value which was midway on the measured beta plateau in that PCM #102 and PCM #108 had high voltages which were set 150 volts and 50 volts, respectively, below the knee of the beta plateau.

This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement IV).

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Page Two

Admission or denial of the alleged violation: The violation occurred.

Reason for the violation: The failure to follow plant procedure HNP-8161, Eberline Model PCM-1 Portal Monitor Operation and Calibration, was the result of personnel error.

Corrective steps which have been taken and the results achieved: PCM #102 and PCM #108 were recalibrated on May 10, 1985, and the detector high voltages set at the midpoint of the measured beta plateau per procedure HNP-8161. Supervisors instructed their technicians on plotting plateaus and properly determining the high voltage setpoint. Procedure compliance was emphasized.

Corrective steps which will be taken to avoid further violations: Procedure HNP-8161 will be revised by November 5, 1985 to clarify the setting of the detector high voltage. An example plateau and blank graph will be added to the procedure. Technicians will be required to plot the plateau to aid in setting the high voltage at the midpoint.

Date when full compliance was achieved: Full compliance was achieved on May 10, 1985.

Should there be any further concerns regarding this issue, please contact this office.

Very truly yours,



L. T. Gucwa

CBS/blm

xc: J. T. Beckham, Jr.  
H. C. Nix, Jr.  
Senior Resident Inspector