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Vogtle Project

Corrected Date
August 12, 1985

Director of Reactor Regulation
Attention: Ms. Elinor G. Adensam, Chief
Licensing Branch #4
Division of Licensing
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

File: X7BC35
Log: GN-679

NRC DOCKET NUMBERS 50-424 AND 50-425
CONSTRUCTION PERMIT NUMBERS CPPR-108 AND CPPR-109
VOGTLE ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANT-UNITS 1 AND 2
SER CONFIRMATORY ITEM 6

Dear Mr. Denton:

Further to our letter of August 5, 1985, concerning Category 1 Backfill compaction at Plant Vogtle and in lieu of any additional confirmatory testing, Georgia Power Company agrees to carry out and report the following

- a. Evaluate the percent compaction of the fill from the end of 1984 to the end of 1985 and update the summary of percent compaction provided to the staff in January 1985. The evaluation will involve adding 4.5 pcf to the laboratory maximum densities determined by Georgia Power Company for material with less than 6 percent passing the No. 200 sieve and by adding 3.5 pcf to the laboratory maximum densities for fill with more than 6 percent passing the No. 200 sieve.
- b. Provide a letter report to the NRC by February 1986 showing the updated percent compaction for the entire record from May 1980 to the end of December 1985. A comparison of this summary will be made with the compaction criteria for Category 1 fill at Plant Vogtle.
- c. Provide the percent completion of Category 1 backfill as of December 31, 1985.

The construction procedures used to compact Category I backfill will be continued, and the quality of the backfill will be maintained. We are therefore confident that the report will verify conformance with the committed Category 1 backfill criteria. The highly satisfactory compaction achieved in the field is evidence by the very high standard penetration tests recently obtained in the fill.

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Also forwarded herewith, as requested by your staff, is a complete copy of all grain size distribution tests carried out by Law Engineering Testing Laboratory as mentioned in their letter of July 26, 1985. Split spoon samples were selected by Bechtel from the standard penetration test borings made recently through the Category 1 backfill at Plant Vogtle. The initial intention was to determine grain size distribution on any lower blow count material encountered. Since all the normalized blow counts were uniformly high, only a limited number of tests were assigned. Grain size tests were made in only the upper eighteen feet of the fill. However, the tests indicate that the materials, in general, are typical of the Category I backfill at Plant Vogtle.

If your staff requires any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,

J. A. Bailey
J. A. Bailey
Project Licensing Manager

JAB/sm

Attachment

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