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October 16, 2001

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Subject: Oconee Nuclear Station
Docket Nos. 50-269, -270, -287
Licensee Event Report 270/2001-01, Revision 0
Problem Investigation Process No.: O-01-0815

Duke Energy Corporation (DEC) has determined that the condition previously reported in Licensee Event Report (LER) 270/2001-01 is not a reportable condition. The basis for this determination is described below and is being communicated by this letter in accordance with the guidance of NUREG 1022, Rev 2, Section 5.1.2. The LER database should be revised to indicate that this is not a reportable condition.

On June 7, 2001, DEC submitted LER 270/2001-01, revision 0, as an abstract report. The abstract identified a High Energy Line Break that could adversely affect Cable Room temperature and humidity levels. Equipment in the room was initially intended to operate in a mild environment. The hypothetical adverse environmental conditions were a result of a previously unevaluated leak path into the Cable Room.

Corrective actions to seal this potential leak path were implemented on April 6 and 7, 2001 on Units 2 and 1 respectively and on April 12, 2001 on Unit 3, prior to restart of Unit 3 from a maintenance outage. The abstract indicated that DEC was performing engineering evaluations to determine (1) the environmental conditions, (2) the resulting impact on equipment in the room, and (3) the consequences of any malfunction or loss of equipment on the ability to mitigate the high energy line break. These engineering evaluations are complete.

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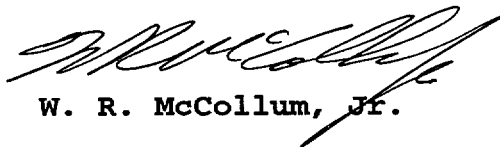
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The evaluations indicate that environmental operating limits could have been exceeded for certain pieces of equipment in the cable rooms. However, further engineering assessment has concluded that the equipment in the cable rooms would have performed the necessary functions to mitigate the postulated event. Key factors in this assessment included:

- a) event timing such that most components would complete the required safety function before the environmental limits were exceeded,
- b) specific conservative design practices which allow extending the environmental limits on some components,
- c) vendor information on operating experience and/or tests under similar conditions, and
- d) the relatively short duration that environmental operating limits would likely have been exceeded during the postulated event.

Based on this engineering assessment, DEC has concluded that this prior condition is not reportable.

Very truly yours,



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