



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
REGION II  
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

September 2, 2014

Mr. Scott Batson  
Site Vice President  
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC  
Oconee Nuclear Station  
7800 Rochester Highway  
Seneca, SC 29672

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION UNITS  
1, 2, AND 3 (NRC INSPECTION REPORT 05000269/2014006, 05000270/2014006,  
AND 05000287/2014006)

Dear Mr. Batson:

On August 14, 2014, the NRC completed its mid-cycle performance review of the Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility.

The NRC determined the performance at Oconee Unit 1 during the most recent quarter was within the Regulatory Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix because of one White inspection finding in the Initiating Events cornerstone. This is a change from the Licensee Response column of NRC's ROP Action Matrix for the 1st calendar quarter because the finding originated in the 2nd quarter of 2014. Therefore, in addition to ROP baseline inspections at your facility, the NRC will conduct a supplemental inspection using Inspection Procedure 95001, "Supplemental Inspection for One or Two White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area" when you have notified us of your readiness.

The NRC determined the performance at Oconee Units 2 and 3 during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's ROP Action Matrix because all inspection findings had very low (i.e., Green) safety significance and all PIs indicated that your performance was within the nominal, expected range (i.e., Green). Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct ROP baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through December 31, 2015. The NRC will also be conducting initial reactor operator licensing examinations. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle performance review. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution

of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes. This inspection plan does not include security related inspections which will be sent via separate, non-publicly available correspondence.

In response to the accident at Fukushima, the Commission issued Order EA-12-049, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Requirements for Mitigation Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events," which requires licensees to develop, implement, and maintain guidance and strategies to maintain or restore core cooling, containment, and spent fuel pool cooling capabilities following a beyond-design-basis external event. Additionally, the Commission issued Order EA-12-051, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Reliable Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation," which requires licensees to have a reliable means of remotely monitoring wide-range Spent Fuel Pool levels to support effective prioritization of event mitigation and recovery actions in the event of a beyond-design-basis external event. The NRC is conducting audits of licensee efforts towards compliance with these Orders. This audit includes an onsite component in order for the NRC to evaluate licensee plans for complying with the Orders, as described in site-specific submittals, and to receive and review information relative to associated open items. This onsite activity will occur in the months prior to a declaration of compliance for the first unit at each site, and will aid staff in development of a Safety Evaluation for the site. The date for the onsite component at your site is being coordinated with your staff. A site-specific audit plan for the visit will be provided in advance to allow sufficient time for preparations.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's Rules of Practice, a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Please contact Gerald McCoy at 404-997-4551 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Joel T. Munday, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-269, 50-270, 50-287

License Nos.: DPR-38, DPR-47, DPR-55

Enclosure: Oconee Inspection/Activity Plan  
(09/01/2014 – 12/31/2015)

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☒ PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ☐ NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE

ADAMS: ☐ Yes ☐ No

ACCESSION NUMBER:

☐ SENSITIVE ☒ NON-SENSITIVE

☒ SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE ☐ FORM 665 ATTACHED

OFFICE	RII:DRP	RII:DRP	RII:DRP	RII:DRP	RII:DRP		
SIGNATURE	CWR /RA/	Via email	GJM /RA/		JTM /RA/		
NAME	CRapp	ECrowe	GMcCoy	MLesser	JMunday		
DATE	08/26/2014	08/26/2014	08/15/2014		08/29/2014		
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY DOCUMENT NAME: S:\DRP\PERIODIC ASSESSMENTS & REPORTS\EOC & MID-CYCLE\2014\MID-CYCLE\ADMIN WORKING FOLDER\LETTERS\OCONEE MID CYCLE 2014.DOCX

S. Batson

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Letter to Scott L. Batson from Joel T. Munday dated September 2, 2014

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## Oconee

## Inspection / Activity Plan

09/01/2014 - 12/31/2015

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
1, 2, 3	09/08/2014	09/12/2014	<b>MODS</b> - PLANT MODIFICATION INSPECTION IP 711117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, and Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	6
1	11/10/2014	11/14/2014	<b>ISI</b> - UNIT 1 IN-SERVICE INSPECTION IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	1
1	11/10/2014	11/14/2014	<b>OL EXAM</b> - INITIAL LICENSE EXAM PREP V23449	OCONEE/DECEMBER 2014 INITIAL EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	3
1	12/08/2014	12/12/2014	<b>OL EXAM</b> - INITIAL LICENSE EXAM V23449	OCONEE/DECEMBER 2014 INITIAL EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	3
1, 2, 3	01/19/2015	01/23/2015	<b>HS</b> - TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK PERFORMANCE IP 7111107T	Heat Sink Performance	1
1, 2, 3	03/16/2015	03/20/2015	<b>OL RQ</b> - REQUAL INSP IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program	2
1, 2, 3	04/13/2015	04/17/2015	<b>PI&amp;R</b> - PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION AND RESOLUTION IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	5
1, 2, 3	04/27/2015	05/01/2015	<b>EP</b> - EP PROGRAM INSPECTION IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	2
1, 2, 3	06/22/2015	06/26/2015	<b>EP</b> - EP PROGRAM INSPECTION IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing	2
1, 2, 3	06/22/2015	06/26/2015	<b>EP</b> - EP PROGRAM INSPECTION IP 7111403	Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	2
1, 2, 3	06/22/2015	06/26/2015	<b>EP</b> - EP PROGRAM INSPECTION IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	2
1, 2, 3	06/22/2015	06/26/2015	<b>EP</b> - EP PROGRAM INSPECTION IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	2
1, 2, 3	06/22/2015	06/26/2015	<b>EP</b> - EP PROGRAM INSPECTION IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	2
1, 2, 3	10/19/2015	10/23/2015	<b>RP</b> - RP OCCUPATIONAL BASELINE WEEK 1 IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	2
1, 2, 3	10/19/2015	10/23/2015	<b>RP</b> - RP OCCUPATIONAL BASELINE WEEK 1 IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	2
1, 2, 3	10/19/2015	10/23/2015	<b>RP</b> - RP OCCUPATIONAL BASELINE WEEK 1 IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	2
1, 2, 3	10/19/2015	10/23/2015	<b>RP</b> - RP OCCUPATIONAL BASELINE WEEK 1 IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	2
1, 2, 3	10/19/2015	10/23/2015	<b>RP</b> - RP OCCUPATIONAL BASELINE WEEK 1 IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	2
1, 2, 3	10/19/2015	10/23/2015	<b>RP</b> - RP OCCUPATIONAL BASELINE WEEK 1 IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	2
2	10/26/2015	10/30/2015	<b>ISI</b> - UNIT 2 IN-SERVICE INSPECTION IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	1
1, 2, 3	11/02/2015	11/06/2015	<b>RP</b> - RP OCCUPATIONAL BASELINE WEEK 2 IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	3
1, 2, 3	11/02/2015	11/06/2015	<b>RP</b> - RP OCCUPATIONAL BASELINE WEEK 2 IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	3

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.

This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

Enclosure

Oconee  
Inspection / Activity Plan  
09/01/2014 - 12/31/2015

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			

3

RP - RP OCCUPATIONAL BASELINE WEEK 2

1, 2, 3	11/02/2015	11/06/2015	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1, 2, 3	11/02/2015	11/06/2015	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1, 2, 3	11/02/2015	11/06/2015	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1, 2, 3	11/02/2015	11/06/2015	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	

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