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SUBJECT: Requests withdrawal of PRVS TS amend w/understanding that deviation 94-24-04 will remain open until amend is subsequently resubmitted & approved by NRC.

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April 6, 1998

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Oconee Nuclear Site
Docket Nos. 50-269, -270, -287
Proposed Revision to Technical Specifications
for the Penetration Room Ventilation System (PRVS)
Technical Specification Change #95-04
Request for Retraction

In a letter dated February 10, 1997, Duke submitted a proposed amendment to the Oconee Nuclear Station (ONS) Technical Specifications. The purpose of the proposed amendment was to revise the Technical Specifications to reduce the allowable reactor building volume leakage rate per day limit to permit relaxation of certain requirements for operability of the PRVS System. These proposed changes were submitted to resolve the issues associated with Deviation 94-24-04.

As part of the proposed PRVS Technical Specification amendment, Duke performed an evaluation of the impacts of this change on the Control Room Ventilation System (CRVS). This evaluation was described in the technical justification of the proposed PRVS Technical Specification amendment. In letters dated February 4, 1998, and March 30, 1998, Duke provided further CRVS design information and a schedule for CRVS design margin improvement.

The Oconee Improved Technical Specifications (ITS) are currently under review by the staff. The ITS review is scheduled to be completed by October, 1998.

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After further discussion with the staff, Duke agrees that the CRVS issues, as described in the March 30, 1998, letter, need to be resolved prior to the staff completing its review of the PRVS Technical Specification amendment. As a result of the schedule proposed in the March 30, 1998 CRVS letter, both Duke and the staff agreed that it is unlikely that the PRVS Technical Specification amendment would be approved prior to issuance of the Oconee ITS. As a result, the appropriate course of action is to withdraw the PRVS Technical Specification amendment until issuance of the Oconee ITS.

Therefore, Duke requests to withdraw the PRVS Technical Specification amendment, #95-04, with the understanding that Deviation 94-24-04 will remain open until the amendment is subsequently resubmitted and approved by the staff. Duke will ensure that ITS appropriately reflects the withdrawal of this amendment. Upon issuance of the ITS, Duke will resubmit the PRVS Technical Specification amendment in the ITS format.

If additional information is needed to support the staff's review, you may contact D. A. Nix at (864) 885-3634 or J. E. Burchfield, Jr., at (864) 885-3292.

Very truly yours,



W. R. McCollum, Jr.,
Site Vice President

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

April 6, 1998

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