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 MCCOLLUM, W.R.      Duke Power Co.  
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SUBJECT: Submits review of rare & endangered species for Oconee  
 Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2 & 3 re environ review for license  
 renewal.

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W. R. McCollum, Jr.  
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**Duke Energy Corporation**

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October 8, 1998

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

Subject: Environmental Review for License Renewal  
Review of Rare and Endangered Species  
Oconee Nuclear Station  
Docket Nos. 50-269, -270, -287

By letter dated July 6, 1998, Duke Energy Corporation (Duke Energy) submitted an Application to Renew the Operating Licenses for Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3 (Application). The Application includes, among other documents, Exhibit D, Environmental Report - Operating License Renewal Stage (Environmental Report).

The Environmental Report contains an analysis of the potential environmental impacts associated with the renewal of the Oconee operating licenses. Section 4.6 of the Environmental Report includes a discussion of rare and endangered species that could be impacted by the continued operation of Oconee or refurbishment activities in the vicinity of Oconee. A survey of rare and endangered species was performed and a copy of the results of this environmental review was included in the Environmental Report as Attachment F.

Duke Energy provided a copy of this survey to the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources by letter dated June 23, 1998 (a copy of this letter was provided as Attachment H in the Oconee Environmental Report). Subsequently, the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources provided a response dated September 24, 1998, which is attached herein. The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources concurs with the determination by Duke Energy contained in the Environmental Report that the proposed action will have no effect on listed or proposed endangered or threatened species.


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The attached information is being provided to aid the NRC staff in its review of the environmental portion of the Application. If there are any questions, please contact Bill Miller at 704-373-7900.

Very Truly Yours,



W. R. McCollum Jr., Site Vice President  
Oconee Nuclear Station

Attachment

XC:

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xc: (w/ attachment)

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Chuck Pierce - Southern Nuclear

Fred Polaski - PECO

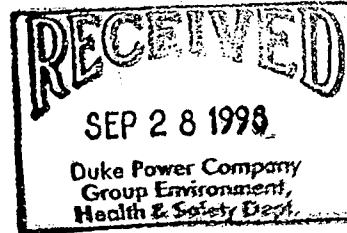
Doug Walters - NEI

# South Carolina Department of Natural Resources



Paul A. Sandifer, Ph.D.  
Director

John V. Miglarese  
Deputy Director for  
Marine Resources



September 24, 1998

Ms. Jennifer Huff  
Duke Power  
Energy Center  
P. O. Box 1006  
Charlotte, NC 28201-1006

Dear Ms. Huff:

Personnel of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources have reviewed the "Endangered, Threatened, and Otherwise Noteworthy Plant and Animal Species of the Oconee Nuclear Station, Oconee and Pickens Counties, South Carolina" report prepared by L. L. Gaddy. We concur with the findings presented, and look forward to continuing our cooperative efforts in conserving our state's important natural resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert E. Duncan".

Robert E. Duncan  
Environmental Programs Director

cc: SCDNR/Mary Bunch