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SUBJECT: Submitsl suppl info to GL 90-06, informing that util intends to no longer repack block valves every refueling outage.

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TITLE: Generic Ltr. 90-06 Resolution of GE PORV's & Block Reliability

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DUKE POWER

April 26, 1995

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

Subject: Oconee Nuclear Site
Docket Nos. 50-269, -270, -287
Generic Letter 90-06
Supplemental Information

Dear Sir:

By letter dated December 20, 1990, Duke Power responded to Generic Letter (GL) 90-06, which in part addressed "Generic Issue 70 - Power Operated Relief and Block Valve Operability". In responding to GL 90-06, Enclosure A, Part 3.1, Item 1b, Duke stated that "the following preventive maintenance is performed on the block valve: 1) The valve is repacked every refueling outage". This constitutes a commitment to the NRC.

Duke intends to no longer repack the block valves every refueling outage. There are several reasons warranting this commitment change:

- 1) The packing is being replaced with a more reliable packing. This more modern packing material is designed to last 10 years. Packing has already been replaced for valves in Units 1 and 2. Packing for Unit 3 valves will be replaced in the next Unit 3 refueling outage scheduled for June 1995.
- 2) This new packing is a double packing design. In this design, two sets of packing rings are installed one on top of the other. This will provide a more reliable method of preventing packing leaks.
- 3) A leak off path has been installed between the two layers of packing. This leak off path is designed to detect any leakage through the first set of packing to serve as warning for packing deterioration. This prevents leakage into the Reactor Building as a result of packing.

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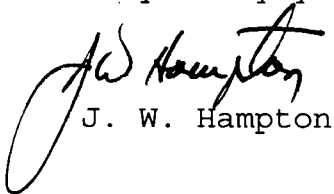
4) Quarterly performance tests (PTs) are also designed to identify any problems with packing leakage for these valves.

5) This valve is included in the GL 89-10 valve program where its performance parameters are monitored.

6) The valve is disassembled, inspected, and reassembled by manufacturer's recommendation every third refueling outage. The packing is replaced during this activity.

This commitment change will not result in any decrease in the level of health and safety to the public based on the conclusions above. If there are any further questions about this item, please contact David Nix at (803) 885-3634.

Very truly yours,


J. W. Hampton

Document Control Desk

April 26, 1995

Page 3

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