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ACCESSION NBR:9805010105 DOC.DATE: 98/04/23 NOTARIZED: NO DOCKET #
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SUBJECT: Forwards rept which details outage of Oconee Unit 2 auxiliary svc water sys.No NRC commitments contained in rept.

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April 23, 1998

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

Subject: Oconee Nuclear Station
Docket Nos. 50-269, -270, -287
Oconee Auxiliary Service Water System Outage

In accordance with Selected Licensee Commitment (SLC) 16.9.9, please find attached a copy of a report which details the outage of the Oconee Unit 2 Auxiliary Service Water (ASW) System. SLC 16.9.9 requires that a report be submitted to the NRC if the ASW System is inoperable for greater than 7 days and the Standby Shutdown Facility (SSF) is also inoperable. The report provides the reason for the outage and the actions taken to restore the system to an operable status. No NRC commitments are contained in this report.

Very truly yours,

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

Attachment

cc: L. A. Reyes, Regional Administrator
Region II

M. A. Scott, Senior Resident Inspector
Oconee Nuclear Site

D. E. LaBarge, Project Manager
NRR

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ATTACHMENT 1

Selected Licensee Commitment 16.9.9

Auxiliary Service Water System Outage Report

Purpose

This report provides information about the Auxiliary Service Water System outage that occurred during the current Oconee Unit 2 refueling outage.

System Description

The Auxiliary Service Water (ASW) System is designed to remove decay heat in the absence of the Main Feedwater System, Emergency Feedwater System and Decay Heat Removal Systems. Decay heat removal is accomplished by supplying water to the steam generators through the emergency feedwater headers. The water supply for the ASW System is provided by the Oconee Unit 2 Condenser Circulating Water System intake.

Another alternate and independent means of decay heat removal is provided by the Standby Shutdown Facility (SSF) Auxiliary Service Water System. Similar to the ASW System, the SSF Auxiliary Service Water System removes decay heat by supplying water to the steam generators through the emergency feedwater headers. In addition, the water supply for the SSF ASW System is provided by the Oconee Unit 2 Condenser Circulating Water System intake.

Technical Specifications/Selected Licensee Commitments

Per Technical Specification Section 3.18, the Standby Shutdown Facility is allowed to be out of service for test and maintenance for 7 days. In addition, special inoperability periods exist such that the 7 day allowed outage time can be exceeded as long as the total outage time during the special inoperability periods does not exceed 45 days per year.

Per Selected Licensee Commitment 16.9.9, the Auxiliary Service Water System is allowed to be out of service for a period of seven days. If the SSF Auxiliary Service Water System is operable, the ASW System is allowed to be inoperable for a period of thirty days. If the inoperable ASW equipment is not returned to service within the associated time frame, a report must be submitted to the NRC within the next thirty days outlining the plans and procedures to be used to provide for the loss of the ASW System.

Auxiliary Service Water System Outage Information

During the current Oconee Unit 2 refueling outage, the Condenser Circulating Water (CCW) System intake was dewatered to allow for inspection of the piping and repair of some CCW valves. As a result of the CCW System intake dewatering, the suction source for the ASW System and SSF ASW System was removed from service. Thus, the ASW System was placed in a 7 day action statement per Selected Licensee Commitment 16.9.9 and the SSF ASW System was placed in a 7 day action statement per Technical Specification 3.18. The action statements were entered for the ASW System and the SSF ASW System at 2247 hours on March 19, 1998.

While the CCW System intake was dewatered, work was initiated on planned modifications to enhance the SSF ASW suction piping. The SSF ASW suction piping upgrade required the SSF ASW System to be removed from service. By combining the SSF ASW suction piping upgrade with the CCW System intake dewatering, the overall SSF outage time would be reduced while enhancing the SSF ASW System. The CCW System and SSF ASW System work activities were reviewed by the Plant Operations Review Committee (PORC) on March 19, 1998, prior to the initiation of the work. This review was performed as part of the Duke administrative requirement to have the PORC review all work activities that are expected to exceed 50 percent of the allowed outage time. The CCW System and SSF ASW System work were scheduled to be completed in approximately 112 hours. The PORC noted in their review that the outage duration estimate was based on variables such as the ability to drain the CCW System piping and the amount of CCW valve repair work that would be necessary. Given that variables existed in the work schedule estimate, the PORC requested that any schedule extensions beyond 124 hours be reviewed by the PORC.

During the performance of the SSF ASW piping modification and CCW valve repairs, Oconee personnel noted that additional time was necessary for the work on valves 2CCW-14 and 2CCW-265. The schedule change would require more than 124 hours and potentially would require entry into the SSF 45 day special inoperability action statement. Per the PORC's request, another PORC meeting was held to review the acceptability of extending the SSF outage time. During the PORC meeting, the work activities were reviewed and the determination was made to enter the SSF 45 day special inoperability action statement to complete the work, if necessary. One factor that the PORC considered during the review was that movement of the valve work to a later time

would result in an overall increase in the total SSF outage time. During the PORC meeting, Operations personnel indicated that the SLC 16.9.9 requirement to restore the ASW System to operable status within 7 days when the SSF is inoperable would not be met. Thus, a report to the NRC concerning the ASW System outage would be required per SLC 16.9.9.

The work on the CCW valve repairs and SSF ASW suction piping modifications continued after the PORC meeting. Once the modification and repair work was completed, the ASW System and SSF ASW System were returned to service at 0316 hours on April 2, 1998. This resulted in a total outage duration of approximately 13 days and 4.5 hours.

Conclusions

From the above information, the reason that the ASW System outage exceeded the 7 day allowed outage time in SLC 16.9.9 is due to the SSF ASW modification and CCW valve repairs which required the CCW intake piping to be dewatered. Since the ASW System and SSF ASW System have been returned to service, no additional actions are necessary to compensate for the ASW System outage.