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SUBJECT: Provides util response to NRC 870326 ltr re implementation schedules for compliance w/requirements of ATWS rule, 10CFR50.62. Compliance expected during Feb 1989, June 1989 & Jan 1990 outages for Units 1, 2 & 3, respectively.

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May 4, 1987

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

Subject: Oconee Nuclear Station
Docket Nos. 50-269, -270, -287

Dear Sir:

The purpose of this letter is to provide Duke Power Company's (Duke) response to an NRC letter dated March 26, 1987 concerning implementation schedules for compliance with the requirements of the ATWS rule, 10 CFR 50.62 for Oconee Nuclear Station.

The final ATWS rule, 10 CFR 50.62, provided in Generic Letter 85-06 required that each licensee develop and submit a proposed schedule for meeting the requirements of the rule. The rule also required a final implementation no later than the second refueling outage after July 26, 1984. In a response to Generic Letter 85-06, Duke stated in a letter dated October 9, 1985 that it is participating in the development of a generic B&WOG Diverse Scram System (DSS) and ATWS Mitigation System Actuation Circuitry (ASMCA) design basis document to be reviewed by the NRC. Duke had proposed to submit the final design information on the Oconee DSS/AMSAC system within 60 days following the staff review and approval of the B&WOG ATWS design basis document. A schedule was also proposed to implement the ATWS modifications by the third refueling outage after July 26, 1984. The proposed schedule, however, was based on a prompt staff review of the generic B&WOG ATWS design basis document and the subsequent review of the final design information on the Oconee DSS/AMSAC System.

As indicated in your letter of March 26, 1987, the staff review of generic ATWS designs have recently been completed or are still ongoing. Because of the delays incurred in review of the generic ATWS designs, a revised NRC schedule allows for delayed implementation of ATWS rule requirements to no later than the third refueling outage after July 24, 1984. This coincides with the outages at Oconee in August 1987, January 1988 and August 1988 for Units 1, 2 and 3, respectively.

Duke finds implementation of a system, still unapproved by the NRC, within the required time frame to be too constraining. The final schedules for meeting the requirements of the rule can not be determined until the staff completes its reviews of the generic B&WOG ATWS design and an Oconee specific design not yet submitted. Duke intends to submit the final design information on the Oconee DSS/AMSAC system within 90 days following the staff review and approval of the B&W ATWS design basis document.

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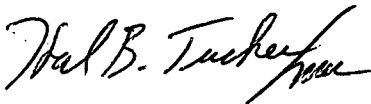
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A more realistic implementation schedule would be during refueling outages currently projected in February 1989, June 1989, and January 1990 for Oconee Units 1, 2 and 3 respectively. These proposed dates coincide with the fourth refueling outages after July 26, 1984. Such a schedule would permit Duke to develop the final design and implement the required modifications with proper planning and in an orderly manner. The proposed schedule is based on a prompt staff review and approval of the generic ATWS design and subsequent review and approval of the Oconee specific final ATWS design by November 1, 1987.

Very truly yours,



Hal B. Tucker

MAH/24/sbn

Attachment

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