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AUTH. NAME PARKER, W.O. AUTHOR AFFILIATION DUKE POWER CO.
 RECIP. NAME DENTON, H.R. RECIPIENT AFFILIATION OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

SUBJECT: DESCRIBES EXAMINATION OF POST TMI OPERATOR TRAINING,
 RESPONDING TO 790515 DISCUSSIONS. CONCLUDES OPERATING SHIFTS
 HAVE ADEQUATE KNOWLEDGE TO OPERATE REACTORS.

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MAY 23 1979



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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FROM: US NRC/TIDC/Distribution Services Branch

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DUKE POWER COMPANY

POWER BUILDING

422 SOUTH CHURCH STREET, CHARLOTTE, N. C. 28242

WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT
STEAM PRODUCTION

TELEPHONE: AREA 704
373-4083

May 16, 1979

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Re: Oconee Nuclear Station
Units 1, 2, and 3
Docket Numbers 50-269, -270, -287

Dear Mr. Denton:

Pursuant to our discussions of May 15, 1979, attached is information concerning operator training, relative to IE Bulletins 79-05, -05A and -05B; the Commission's Order of May 7, 1979; W. S. Lee's letters of April 25 and April 26, 1979, and my letters of April 25 and April 26, 1979.

On May 15, 1979, Duke's Training Services Group, which is an independent organization from the Oconee Nuclear Station organization, conducted an examination of personnel on four of five operating shifts. (The fifth shift will be examined prior to returning to duty.) Based on these examinations of licensed shift people, we conclude that operating shifts have adequate and sufficient knowledge to successfully operate the Oconee reactors in all modes of operation, including transients which may be imposed in the event of a small break LOCA situation.

In addition to the attached, for long-term verification of the effectiveness of this training, Babcock & Wilcox Company and General Physics Corporation have been contracted to independently perform audits of and make recommendations on operator cognizance of the applicable station modifications and procedures.

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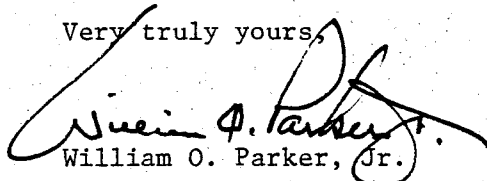
Mr. Harold R. Denton
Page 2
May 16, 1979

On May 15, 1979, I personally discussed operator awareness and readiness with senior station management and with operating shift personnel. My discussions conclude:

1. Shift personnel are knowledgeable about the Three Mile Island sequence of events.
2. Operators stationed at the EFWP are knowledgeable in their duties and will be able to perform pump startup expeditiously, as necessary.
3. Licensed personnel are familiar with the procedures on management of small breaks and will be able to perform their duties in this unlikely situation properly.
4. Operating personnel are knowledgeable about the hardware modifications associated with the anticipatory reactor trips and operation of the EFW system.

It is my understanding that operator training is the sole remaining issue requiring resolution for the startup of Oconee Unit 2 and continued operation of Unit 1. Based on my knowledge of the current status of operator readiness, it is concluded that Oconee should be permitted to continue operation and that your Safety Evaluation Report should be issued as soon as possible. However, in order to provide additional assurance that operators are fully trained on all aspects of small break LOCAs, anticipatory reactor trips, and the Three Mile Island sequence of events, only those operators who have achieved at least 90 percent on the Training Services examination will be utilized at the control board of an operating unit. This restriction will remain in effect until all operators have completed that part of requalification training associated with revisions to procedures and hardware as a result of Three Mile Island.

Very truly yours,



William O. Parker, Jr.

KSC:vr
Attachment

DUKE POWER COMPANY
OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION

Post-TMI Operator Training

1. TMI-2 Sequence of Events 3 Hours

The sequence of events relative to the March 28, 1979 accident at Three Mile Island, Unit 2 was reviewed with operating personnel to assure their understanding of the events and the significance thereof.

2. IE Bulletins and Responses 4 Hours

Actions taken as a result of IE Bulletins 79-05, 05A and 05B, as detailed in the responses to the Bulletins, were reviewed with operating personnel. This included such items as post-accident HPI operation, emergency feedwater operation, natural circulation procedures, removal and restoration of safety-related equipment, and prompt notification of the NRC.

3. B&W Simulator Training 4 Hours

Operating personnel participated in training at B&W facilities in Lynchburg, Virginia in which the sequence of events and response of the plant at TMI-2 were discussed. The sequence was also presented on the B&W training simulator as it actually occurred. The sequence was then presented with correct operator action and the involvement of the operators in training. RCS cooling with HPI operation only was also presented on simulator.

4. Procedures and Procedure Changes 6 Hours

Changes to existing station procedures made as a result of TMI-2 followup were reviewed with operating personnel. Procedures included in this review were those for loss of main feedwater, emergency feedwater operation, loss of reactor coolant flow, steam supply system rupture and loss of reactor coolant. In the case of the procedure for loss of reactor coolant, the changes included new instructions for actions relative to small-break LOCA's. A new procedure addressing loss of feedwater during natural circulation was also addressed in this training.

5. Shift Review Relative to TMI 3 Hours

Elements of the above and various other items related to the TMI-2 accident and followup actions were discussed by Shift Supervisors with their personnel as part of the on-going responsibility of each supervisor to assure the proper training of assigned individuals.

6. NRC Review

1.5 Hours

NRC Office of Inspection and Enforcement personnel reviewed the TMI-2 sequence of events, their significance, the need for proper operator action, etc. with operating personnel.

7. Examination and Review of Results

2.25 Hours

Operating personnel were administered an examination on the sequence of events at TMI-2 and the resulting station modifications and changes to procedures at Oconee to determine each individuals cognizance relative to these items. The results of the examination were also discussed with the personnel.

As can be seen from the above, each operator assigned at Oconee has received at least 23.75 hours of training relative to the TMI-2 accident and followup actions.

The information in this special training has also been incorporated into the ongoing requalification training program—as an 18-hour segment—and will be given to each operator as part of the normal training cycle.