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 ACIL: 50-269 Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 1, Duke Power Co.
 50-270 Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 2, Duke Power Co.
 50-287 Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 3, Duke Power Co.

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 RECIPIENT AFFILIATION: Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
 Operating Reactors Branch 4

SUBJECT: Provides status of NUREG-0578 Category A items which will not be implemented prior to 800101. Unit 1 currently in shutdown for refueling. All required items for Unit 1 will be completed before startup anticipated in early Feb 1980.

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DUKE POWER COMPANY

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WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT
STEAM PRODUCTION

December 17, 1979

TELEPHONE: AREA 704
373-4083

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

Attention: Mr. R. W. Reid, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch No. 4

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

Dear Sir:

This letter is in response to a Staff request to provide an up-to-date status of NUREG-0578 Category A items which will not be implemented prior to January 1, 1980 at Oconee Nuclear Station.

Oconee 1 is currently shutdown for refueling. All items identified by NUREG-0578 for completion by January 1, 1980 will be completed on this unit prior to startup. This is anticipated to be early February 1980, assuming the current schedule is maintained.

As stated in my letter of November 21, 1979, it is our intention to implement each NUREG-0578 item on Oconee 2 and 3 on the schedule required with the following exceptions:

1. With regard to the PORV position indication requirement of Item 2.1.3a of NUREG-0578, all required equipment is on site. The modification package, including installation details and instrument checkout requirements, will be released for installation on or before January 31, 1980.
2. The identification of new instrumentation required by Item 2.1.3b of NUREG-0578, is a B&W utility generic effort. This item is being addressed by B&W, and the results of this effort will be provided by January 31, 1980.

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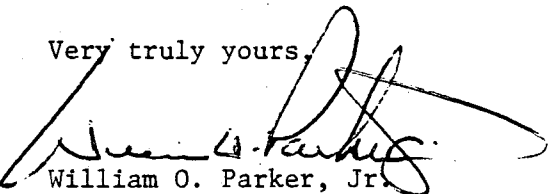
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Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
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3. The leak testing program required by Item 2.1.6a of NUREG-0578 will be performed at the first refueling outage after January 1, 1980. This item requires an outage to provide sufficient time to perform the testing and to repair identified sources of leakage.
4. With regard to the diverse containment isolation requirement of Item 2.1.4 of NUREG-0578, the modification package will be released for installation on or before January 31, 1980. The electrical connectors required for this modification have a promised delivery date of January 30, 1980. As currently known, all other required equipment will be available on site prior to this date.

As stated in my letter of November 21, 1979, it is our commitment to shutdown Oconee Units 2 and 3 in mid-February and May 1980, respectively. We feel that this is a workable balance between real power demands and perceived incremental increases in safety of operations. We urge that consideration be given to Duke's unique situation and that Duke be allowed the flexibility of sequential shutdown of the units with Oconee 3 to be removed from service no later than May 31, 1980.

Very truly yours,



William O. Parker, Jr.

RLG:scs