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SUBJECT: Revised application for amends to Licenses DPR-38, DPR-47 & DPR-55, superseding 870903 & 880227 applications.

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DUKE POWER

September 9, 1988

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

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

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50, Part 50.90, please find attached (Attachment 1) a proposed amendment to the Oconee Nuclear Station Facility Operating Licenses and revisions to the Oconee Nuclear Station Technical Specifications. The proposed revisions would delete the cycle-dependent core operating limits from the Technical Specifications and facilitate 10 CFR 50, Part 50.59 reviews for future core reloads.

By letter dated September 3, 1987 and as supplemented on February 27, 1988, Duke Power Company (Duke) submitted a proposed amendment to delete the cycle-dependent core operating limits from the Oconee Technical Specifications. In a letter dated August 23, 1988 the NRC staff indicated that they have reviewed the proposed amendment dated September 3, 1987 and have concluded the proposed wording needs to be clarified as suggested in the enclosure to their letter. As such, this submittal is a revised proposed amendment based on Duke's letter of September 3, 1987 and includes the suggested changes as described in the enclosure to the NRC letter dated August 23, 1988. This revised proposed amendment is being resubmitted as a complete package and supersedes the affected pages in Duke's letter of September 3, 1987 and February 27, 1988.

The resubmittal of the complete amendment request package is intended for the NRC staff convenience to expedite the review and approval of this amendment request. Please note that this amendment request is consistent with the current NRC and industry efforts to simplify the technical specifications and provides adequate assurance that the correct limits will be followed in operating the Oconee plants. Furthermore, the Babcock and Wilcox Owners Group (B&WOG) identified Oconee as the lead plant to submit such an amendment request as part of the B&WOG technical specification improvement program and has been included in the NRC technical specification improvement program work plan. Therefore, expeditious approval of the proposed amendment will support the NRC efforts to issue a planned Generic Letter concerning technical specifications improvements and, as a model, provides an opportunity for the industry to pursue similar amendments to their technical specifications.

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Currently, the cycle specific variables in the Oconee Technical Specifications are evaluated for every cycle reload and updated as necessary. By letter dated November 14, 1986 the NRC Staff provided guidance for removal of certain cycle-dependent core operating limits from the Technical Specifications. Accordingly, the proposed revisions, provided by this letter, specify approved Duke methodologies, Reload Design Methodolog II, DPC-NE-1002A dated October 1985 and Reload Design Methodology, NFS-1001A dated April, 1984 for calculating the numeric values of cycle dependent variables and delete the cycle specific core operating limits from the Oconee Technical Specifications.

This proposal contains changes which reflect Staff guidance provided by letters dated November 14, 1986, and August 23, 1988 and concerns the following:

- (1) Minimum Conditions for Criticality in Specification 3.1.3;
- (2) Shutdown Margin in Specification 3.1.11;
- (3) Rod position Limits and Power Imbalance Limits in Specification 3.5.2, and deletion of Specification 3.5.2-8;
- (4) Core Operating Limits Report in Specification 6.9.
- (5) Deletion of Figures 3.5.2-1 through 3.5.2.12. These Figures will be included in the Core Operating Limits Report.
- (6) Deletion of Figures 3.5.2-13 through 3.5.2-15. These Figures were deleted by amendments 132/132/129, 137/137/134 and 142/142/139.

The cycle specific core operating limits calculated in accordance with the approved methodologies will be included in a report, Core Operating Limits Report, and provided to the NRC upon issuance as required by the proposed Technical Specification 6.9.4. Controlled copies of the Core Operating Limits Report will be maintained at the Oconee Nuclear Station and will be revised in accordance with the future Oconee cycles. Attachment 3 provides a sample copy of Core Operating Limits Report for information purposes only.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.91, Duke Power Company (Duke) has performed a No Significant Hazards Consideration (NSHC) evaluation (Attachment 2) in accordance with the standards in §50.92. The NSHC evaluation for the proposed amendment is that submitted with our letter of September 3, 1987 and has remained valid and unchanged. Duke has determined that the proposed amendment request does not represent a significant hazards consideration.

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

September 9, 1988

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Duke is forwarding a copy of this application to the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control for review and, as appropriate, subsequent consultation with the NRC Staff.

Since this proposed amendment is a resubmittal of a previously submitted amendment request, as yet unapproved, Duke considers no additional application fees are justified.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hal B. Tucker".

Hal B. Tucker

MAH09.D1/lcc

Attachments

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

September 9, 1988

• Page Four

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