

Docket Nos. 50-269 ✓
50-270 ✓
and 50-287

June 14, 1971

Duke Power Company
Power Building
422 South Church Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28201

Attention: Mr. Austin C. Thies
Vice President
Production & Operation

Gentlemen:

In our review of your Oconee Nuclear Station Units 1, 2 and 3, the degree of availability of the various sources of auxiliary electrical power has been the subject of considerable discussion. At present, we have focused on those sources which will be available at the time Unit 1 becomes operational. Taking into account the availability of backup auxiliary power from a Lee Station gas turbine, we conclude that there is reasonable assurance that no single failure in the offsite or onsite auxiliary power systems could result in a condition where one more failure would deprive Unit 1 of all auxiliary ac power.

To obtain this reasonable assurance, we conclude that until an additional viable source of onsite auxiliary power is shown to be available, every effort should be made to keep the Keowee hydro-station generators operational when Unit 1 is operating. Minor maintenance and routine inspections requiring removal of both hydro-generators from service should be performed when the Unit 1 reactor is subcritical.

With a view towards multiple nuclear unit operation, we understand that you intend to demonstrate that the Oconee Nuclear Units can, without reliance on other ac power sources, continue to supply all safety related station auxiliary electrical loads following a loss of the external grid when operating at or near rated power. Following our review of the results of such a demonstration, it is expected that when there are at least two Oconee nuclear units in operation, the complete Keowee hydro-station can be permitted to be shutdown for

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limited periods to perform minor maintenance and routine scheduled inspections without requiring the nuclear units to be shutdown also.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by
Peter A. Morris

Peter A. Morris, Director
Division of Reactor Licensing

cc: Mr. Roy B. Snapp
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

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