

DUKE POWER COMPANY

POWER BUILDING

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

WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT
STEAM PRODUCTION

November 11, 1981

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: Ms. E. G. Adensam, Chief
Licensing Branch No. 4

Re: McGuire Nuclear Station
Docket No. 50-369



Dear Mr. Denton:

The McGuire Operating License, No. NPF-9, contains a condition that states:

"The licensee shall install a reactor vessel water level instrumentation system by January 1, 1982."

Duke Power Company has expended considerable effort in an attempt to comply with this requirement in a timely manner. However, in spite of these efforts, it appears that the reactor vessel level system will not be installed by January 1, 1982. Attachment 1 shows the projected schedule for the remaining work. Much of this work can be accomplished with the plant at power. However, the final installation and checkout of the system will require an outage of approximately 6 weeks duration or two separate outages of 2 to 4 weeks. No such outages are anticipated within the next 6 months and it is conceivable that first refueling would be the first opportunity to complete the installation.

A plant shutdown during the peak winter season solely for the purpose of installing this level instrumentation is not justified for several reasons. First, the NRC staff has not completed its review of the design of the Westinghouse level system and it is unlikely that it will be complete by the end of the year. Second, by delaying the final installation date, any NRC staff concerns raised during the review of the system could be factored into the installed system with less impact.

The requested extension does not represent a safety concern. McGuire currently has adequate procedures for dealing with inadequate core cooling situations without a reactor vessel level instrumentation system. The reactor vessel head vent interim procedure has operating instructions for the vents without reactor vessel level indication. Thus, continued operation of McGuire Unit 1 beyond January 1, 1982 (which is an arbitrary date) without reactor vessel level instrumentation does not decrease the safety of the plant.

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Boo! w/check
\$1,200
S/o

Mr. Harold R. Denton
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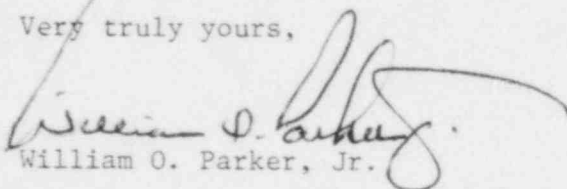
Although the requested delay is through first refueling of Unit 1, it is Duke Power Company's intention to complete the installation of this level system during the first shutdown of sufficient duration which the work can be reasonably scheduled.

Accordingly, it is requested that License Condition 2.C.(11)f.(1) be revised to read as follows:

"The licensee shall install a reactor vessel water level instrumentation system prior to startup after the first refueling."

The proposed amendment is considered to be a Class II amendment pursuant to 10 CFR 170.22. Therefore, enclosed is a check in the amount of \$1,200.

Very truly yours,


William O. Parker, Jr.

GAC/smh

cc: Mr. Paul Bemis
Senior Resident Inspector
McGuire Nuclear Station

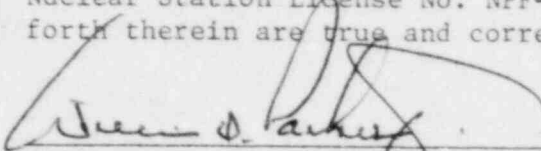
Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Director
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street, Suite 3100
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Mr. Harold R. Dencon, Director

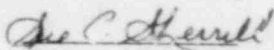
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WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR., being duly sworn, states that he is Vice President of Duke Power Company; that he is authorized on the part of said Company to sign and file with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission this revision to the McGuire Nuclear Station License No. NPF-9; and that all statements and matters set forth therein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge.


William O. Parker, Jr. Vice President

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 11th day of November, 1981


Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

Sept. 20, 1984