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DUKE POWER

April 10, 1990

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

Subject: Oconee Nuclear Station
Docket Nos. 50-269, -270, -287
Generic Letter 87-02
Verification of Seismic Adequacy of Mechanical and
Electrical Equipment in Operating Reactors, Unresolved
Safety Issue (USI) A-46

By my letter dated October 7, 1988, I had committed to a schedule for the plant walkdown associated with the implementation of USI A-46 at Oconee Nuclear Station. This schedule was contingent upon the schedule for completion of generic efforts submitted by the Seismic Qualification Utility Group (SQUG) in its October 9, 1987 letter. The SQUG schedule provided for completion of the Generic Implementation Procedure (GIP) during the first quarter of 1989, followed by NRC review and issuance of a final SER in the second quarter of 1989.

My current understanding is that the final SER for A-46 implementation will be delayed at least until the middle of calendar year 1990. Based on this, the anticipated walkdown of Oconee Nuclear Station associated with the resolution of A-46 must be deferred beyond the original schedule. Until the final SER has been issued, I cannot commit to a firm schedule for the walkdown and other activities requested by Generic Letter 87-02. Within 60 days following receipt of the final SER and resolution of all outstanding issues, I will submit our implementation plan and schedule.

I would also like to integrate the resolution of USI A-46 with the resolution of numerous other related seismic issues (e.g., Eastern Seismicity, Seismic Margins, and Severe Accident Individual Plant External Event Evaluations). In view of the uncertainties in the requirements and schedule for resolution of these related issues, I reserve the right to revise the implementation schedule for USI A-46 at Oconee Nuclear Station to integrate these potential future requirements into a single, cost-effective program.

Very truly yours,

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

H. B. Tucker
PFG103/td

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cc: Mr. Len Wiens
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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Mr. P. H. Skinner
NRC Resident Inspector
Oconee Nuclear Station

Mr. S. D. Ebner
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