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DUKE POWER

February 16, 1993

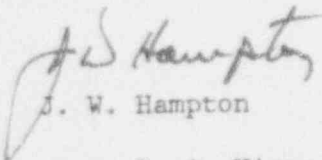
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Oconee Nuclear Station
Docket Nos. 50-269,-270,-287
Special Report, Technical Specification 3.7.9

Technical Specification (TS) 3.7.2(e)1 permits complete single string or single component of the 230kV Switchyard 125VDC power system to be inoperable for 24 hours. In the event of degradation beyond TS 3.7.2, TS 3.7.9 requires notification of NRC Region II within 24 hours and submittal of a safety evaluation which justifies the safest course of action to be taken in the event of ongoing degradation beyond TS 3.7.2, together with plans for expediting the return to unrestricted operating conditions. On February 10, 1993 it was determined that the limits of TS 3.7.2.e.1 were exceeded on January 26, 1993 when power was lost to both 230kV Switchyard battery chargers for approximately 30 to 40 minutes. This occurred during a dead bus transfer as part of a Technical Specification required test during the Unit 1 refueling outage. NRC Region II was notified of this event by telephone on February 10, 1993.

Although the event of concern has already been resolved, the following information provides the basis for the course of action taken. Briefly, upon discovery of low battery voltage during a routine surveillance, the Oconee Unit 1 230kV Switchyard feeder was restored, the battery chargers were verified to be operating, and the batteries were verified to be operating at normal float voltage. Subsequent investigation determined that the chargers had been deenergized for approximately 30 to 40 minutes. Calculations have been documented to show that the actual battery terminal voltages would be significantly greater than required if a switchyard isolate event were to occur following an assumed one hour discharge at normal loads.

Very Truly Yours,


J. W. Hampton

xc: L. A. Wiens, Project Manager
ONRR

S. D. Ebnetter, Regional Administrator
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