

FROM: Dept of Commerce
Washington, D.C.
Sidney R. Galler

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1445

LTR.

MEMO:

REPORT:

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TO:

H.L. Price

ORIG.:

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ACTION NECESSARY ☐

CONCURRENCE ☐

DATE ANSWERED:

NO ACTION NECESSARY ☐

COMMENT ☐

BY:

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50-269

Enviro file

DESCRIPTION: (Must Be Unclassified)

Ltr furnishing comments on enviro
impact statement re: Oconee Unit
1...Duke Power Co. trans:

REFERRED TO

DATE

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G. Blanc
W/ 1 cy for action

DISTRIBUTION

Reg file cy
AEC PDR

ENCLOSURES:

Ltr 7-29-70 W/Rept Review of PSAR
fm Air Resources Enviro Lab.

REMARKS:

Dist per. G. Blanc 4-16-71

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U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

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OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
Washington, D.C. 20230

March 23, 1971



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Mr. Harold L. Price
Director of Regulation
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D.C. 20545

Dear Mr. Price:

The Department of Commerce has reviewed the draft environmental impact statement relating to the application for an operating license filed by the Duke Power Company for the Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1.

The subject statement contains no relevant technical information relating to the meteorological aspects of the site. Accordingly, this aspect of the Departmental evaluation is based on other, more detailed, technical data previously made available to the Air Resources Laboratories.

At the request of the Division of Reactor Licensing of the AEC, a review of the Preliminary Safety Analysis Report of the Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2 and 3, was prepared by the Air Resources Environmental Laboratory and transmitted to the AEC in separate comments on January 27, 1967, May 3, 1967, and June 9, 1967. A review of the Final Safety Analysis Report was sent on July 29, 1970, a copy of which is enclosed. The conclusion on that date was that sufficiently detailed and appropriate meteorological data had been developed by the applicant for computing relative atmospheric diffusion rates. It was understood that this information was going to be utilized by the AEC in their safety evaluation for determining the environmental effect of accidental and routine releases of radioactivity into the atmosphere. The impact statement does not appear to address this technical input directly although it is a relevant variable for environmental considerations.

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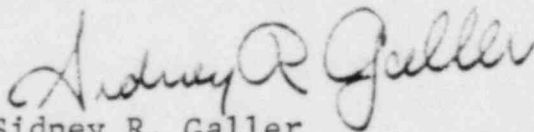
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In general, the statement lacks quantitative analysis in important areas (e.g., see sections on "Alternatives to the Proposed Action" and impact on "productivity") and does not include the scope of environmental consideration required by the Council on Environmental Quality. The section dealing with "Economic and Environmental Amenities" is superficial in substance and offers little in-depth analysis of the type needed to justify the project.

The socioeconomic analysis provided in the statement does not focus clearly on relevant economic costs and benefits of the proposed nuclear power project. In the absence of additional data and analysis, it is difficult to make an evaluation of the true "trade off" between economic value and probable environmental costs.

It is hoped these observations will be helpful to your office.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sidney R. Galler". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Sidney R. Galler
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Environmental Affairs

Enclosures