

**DUKE POWER COMPANY**

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April 12, 1983

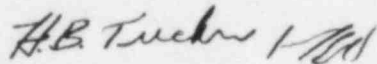
Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Regional Administrator  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region II  
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Re: Oconee Nuclear Station  
Docket No. 50-269

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

Please find attached Reportable Occurrence Report R0-269/83-09. This report is submitted pursuant to Oconee Nuclear Station Technical Specification 6.6.2.1.b(2) which concerns operation in a degraded mode permitted by a limiting condition for operation, and describes an incident which is considered to be of no significance with respect to its effect on the health and safety of the public.

Very truly yours,



Hal B. Tucker

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Attachment

cc: Document Control Desk  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

INPO Records Center  
Suite 1500  
1100 Circle 75 Parkway  
Atlanta, Georgia 30339

Mr. J. C. Bryant  
NRC Resident Inspector  
Oconee Nuclear Station

Mr. E. L. Conner, Jr.  
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USNRC REGION II  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

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Duke Power Company  
Oconee Nuclear Station

Report Number: RO-269/83-09

Report Date: April 12, 1983

Occurrence Date: March 13, 1983

Facility: Oconee Unit 1, Seneca, South Carolina

Identification of Occurrence: Hydraulic Snubber found rotated and declared inoperable.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence: 100% FP

Description of Occurrence: On March 13, 1983, at about 1442, during a general routine tour of the turbine building, hydraulic snubber 1-01A-0-550-R5 on the A Main Steam Line was found rotated, such that the reservoir was lower than the snubber cylinder. Since it is very difficult to test a snubber in this position, the snubber was declared inoperable.

Apparent Cause of Occurrence: On February 14, 1983, during the visual inspection of all accessible hydraulic snubbers, the snubber in question was found to have a piston rod setting different than the setting defined on the hanger sketch. February 23, 1983, the setting was adjusted according to the procedure. The personnel performing the work had no knowledge of the installed set screws. The procedure made no mention of the existence of the two set screws in the collar. Because of the incomplete procedures, the set screws were not recognized as such and were not readjusted properly. The cause of this occurrence is inadequate and incomplete procedures.

Analysis of Occurrence: March 11, 1983, while making a routine inspection tour of the Turbine Building, it was noted that the subject hydraulic snubber was properly oriented and operable. Therefore, it is known that the snubber was operable about 1500 on Friday, March 11, 1983. Thus, 72 hours from that time would be 1500 on Monday, March 14, 1983, but the snubber was repaired by 1945 on Sunday, March 13, 1983. So the snubber was inoperable for less than 72 hours as allowed by Technical Specification 3.14.

In addition, although the hydraulic snubber was declared inoperable, it would have provided its intended function during an earthquake or severe transient. It has been demonstrated that a hydraulic snubber would operate for a short time without a hydraulic fluid reservoir, but since this snubber was not tested in the as-found condition, it was technically inoperable.

The health and safety of the general public were not endangered by this incident.

Corrective Action: The snubber was removed, repaired, and reinstalled. The set screws were replaced when the snubber was repaired. Oil was added to the reservoir and then it was tested on the hydraulic snubber test bench. From the

results of this test it was determined that the snubber was operable and it did not have any air in the cylinder or snubber valve. Personnel spot-checked other hydraulic snubbers on all three units and found no other snubbers rotated. All snubbers whose piston rod settings were adjusted were visually inspected. The snubber adjustment procedure will be revised to explain that two set screws were installed in the collar and that both set screws need to be loosened before adjusting the piston rod setting. The twelve snubbers whose piston rod settings had been adjusted will be inspected, the set screws replaced, and the lock nut tightened if necessary.