

DUKE POWER COMPANY

P.O. BOX 33189
CHARLOTTE, N.C. 28242

HAL B. TUCKER
VICE PRESIDENT
NUCLEAR PRODUCTION

May 6, 1983

TELEPHONE
(704) 373-4531

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 Nos. 50-369, 50-370

Dear Mr. Denton:

Local fire alarms will be provided by July 1, 1983 for all fire zones as stated in our letter of September 30, 1982. Duke Power plans to use the public address system for local fire alarms inside containment. This results in two technical deviations from the recommendations of NFPA 72D-1975 which were not identified in the McGuire Nuclear Station Fire Protection Review, Revised September 1982. Duke Power is committed in the Fire Protection Review to comply with the intent of the NFPA standard; we believe the use of the public address system for local fire alarms inside containment does comply with that intent. We request that the NRC staff provide their concurrence with this position.

In accordance with Section E.1(b) of the McGuire Nuclear Station Fire Protection Review, activation of any fire detector results in an audible local alarm in the area of activation as well as an audible and visual alarm in the Control Room. In developing the local fire alarm capability for the reactor containment, Duke has determined that broadcasting an automatically initiated, unique tone over the public address system would provide the necessary local alarm. The unique tone will sound only inside the reactor containment. Audible and visual alarming will occur in the Control Room. Locally placed bells will be provided in all other areas (including the annulus). The public address system is currently used for three other alarms with unique tones: the reactor building radiation alarm, the evacuation alarm and the site assembly alarm. The response of individuals to all four of the unique tone alarms will involve evacuation of the reactor containment, which is the objective of the local fire alarm.

The use of the public address system for local alarming in the reactor building will result in two deviations from the letter of NFPA 72D-1975:

Paragraph 2471 requires that amplifier and tone generator equipment be provided with trouble alarms to signal component failure. The public address system is frequently used when the reactor building is accessible. Any equipment failure would be readily apparent without component supervision.

8305130192 830506
PDR ADOCK 05000369
F PDR

Boa1

Harold R. Denton
May 6, 1983
Page 2

Paragraph 2551-C requires that fire alarm, supervisory and trouble signals take precedence over all other signals. The public address is also used for reactor building radiation alarms, evacuation alarms and site assembly alarms. These alarms will have higher priority than the distinct fire alarm. However, response of individuals in the area would involve evacuation for each of these functions. Therefore, using the public address system would meet the intent of the referenced paragraph.

The following inserts to the McGuire Nuclear Station Fire Protection Review are planned to address these deviations:

Section E.1(a)

"Paragraph 2471 - Trouble alarms on the Reactor Building local alarms (public address system) are not provided. Any equipment failure will be readily apparent due to the frequent use of the public address system when the reactor building is accessible."

"Paragraph 2551-C - The distinct local fire alarm broadcast over the public address system in the reactor building could have a lower priority than the reactor building radiation alarm, evacuating alarm, or the site assembly alarm which are broadcast in the same manner. The response of personnel will be the same for all four of the above alarms inside the reactor building."

Duke believes that use of the public address system for local fire alarms in the reactor building meets the intent of NFPA 72D-1975 as committed in Section E.1(a) of the McGuire Fire Protection Review and will revise the Fire Protection Review to accurately reflect station conditions after receiving NRC approval.

Please provide NRC approval by July 1, 1983 of our plans for local fire alarms inside containment. We will be available to answer any questions concerning this if necessary.

Very truly yours,

Hal B. Tucker *et*

Hal B. Tucker

REH:jfw

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

Mr. W. T. Orders
NRC Resident Inspector
McGuire Nuclear Station