

**DUKE POWER COMPANY**

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HAL B. TUCKER  
VICE PRESIDENT  
NUCLEAR PRODUCTION

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2 A 9 July 15, 1984

Mr. James P. O' Reilly  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region II  
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900  
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

Re: Oconee Nuclear Station  
Docket No. 50-269

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

On January 11, 1984 Duke Power Company submitted for your information Reportable Occurrence Report RO-269/83-20 which concerned two control rod drive breakers experiencing a sluggish response while being tested. In that submittal, Duke committed to advise the NRC of the final schedule for delivery and installation of new trip shaft and bearing assemblies which are part of the new Control Rod Drive (CRD) Breaker Front Frame Assemblies.

By my letter of April 30, 1984, the NRC was informed that based on advise from General Electric Company the CRD breaker front frame assemblies would be shipped on May 14, 1984 with the installation of the new front frames on all three Occnee units completed by July 31, 1984.

During the process of installing the new front frames received from General Electric, nine out of a shipment of seventeen were found to have manufacturing defects which precluded their acceptability for use. Members of your Staff as well as ONRR were informed of this problem on July 19, 1984 and July 26, 1984. Duke has evaluated the defects for potential reportability under 10CFR21. However, since the defects were discovered during the process of designating the front frame assemblies for use as a basic component, Part 21 reportability did not apply. Duke will provide a report which will address the defects discovered at a later date.

Duke continues to be committed to completing the installation of new front frames. However, the original completion date of July 31, 1984 will be delayed due to shipping delays incurred and to the defect discovered. Duke is currently waiting for advise from General Electric Company regarding a shipping schedule for the remaining assemblies. Duke will submit a revised schedule for the delivery and installation of the remaining frames as soon as it is available.

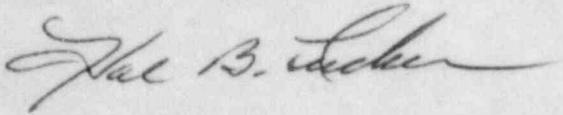
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Mr. James P. O'Reilly  
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Very truly yours,



Hal B. Tucker

MAH:slb

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NRC Resident Inspector  
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*March Bond*

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