



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

September 1, 2010

Mr. David A. Baxter
Site Vice President
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
Oconee Nuclear Station
7800 Rochester Highway
Seneca, SC 29672

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN – OCONEE
NUCLEAR STATION

Dear Mr. Baxter:

On August 10, 2010, the NRC staff completed its performance review of Oconee Nuclear Station. Our technical staff reviewed performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the period from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility. This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include security information. A separate letter, marked as "Official Use Only - Security Related Information," will include the security cornerstone review and resultant inspection plan.

Plant performance at Oconee Units 1, 2, and 3 for the most recent quarter was within the Degraded Cornerstone column of the NRC's Action Matrix based on one Yellow Mitigating Systems finding for Units 1, 2, and 3 and a White Mitigating Systems finding for Units 2 and 3. Both of these findings originated in the first quarter of 2010. We will conduct a supplemental inspection using Inspection Procedure 95002, Inspection for One Degraded Cornerstone or Any Three White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area, to assess your evaluation of and corrective actions for these findings when you have notified us of your readiness.

Additionally, on August 12, 2010, the staff issued a severity level III Notice of Violation in accordance with the NRC's Enforcement Policy. We will conduct a follow-up inspection using Inspection Procedure 92702, Follow-up on Corrective Actions for Violations and Deviations, for this violation when you have notified us of your readiness.

In addition to reactor oversight process (ROP) baseline inspections, we also plan on conducting Temporary Instruction (TI) 2515/172, Dissimilar Metal Butt Welds; TI 2515/179, National Source Tracking System Verification; and initial reactor operator license examinations. Also, the staff will continue its review and inspection of modifications associated with fire, tornado, and high energy line break mitigation; and safety-related digital control systems.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, less those related to physical protection, scheduled through December 31, 2011. The inspection plan is provided to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues well in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle review.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If circumstances arise which cause us to change the inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact Jonathan Bartley at (404) 997-4607 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Luis A. Reyes
Regional Administrator

Docket Nos.: 50-269, 50-270, 50-287
License Nos.: DPR-38, DPR-47, DPR-55

Enclosure: Oconee Inspection/Activity Plan (09/01/2010 – 12/31/2011)

cc w/encl: (See page 3)

cc w/encl:

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Oconee

Inspection / Activity Plan

09/01/2010 - 12/31/2011

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
			OL EXAM - INITIAL EXAM - PREP		5
1	10/04/2010	10/05/2010	V23339	OCONEE/OCTOBER 2010 EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	
			OL EXAM - INITIAL EXAM WEEK		3
1	10/25/2010	10/29/2010	V23339	OCONEE/OCTOBER 2010 EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	
			EB3ISI - UNIT 3 INSERVICE INSPECTION		1
3	11/01/2010	11/05/2010	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
			EB3TI172 - RCS DISSIMILAR METAL BUTT WELDS		1
3	11/01/2010	11/05/2010	IP 2515/172	Reactor Coolant System Dissimilar Metal Butt Welds	
			EB3SGISI - UNIT 3 SG INSERVICE INSPECTION		1
3	11/08/2010	11/12/2010	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
			OL RQ - REQUAL INSPECTION		2
1, 2, 3	02/28/2011	03/04/2011	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program	
			EB3ISI - UNIT 1 INSERVICE INSPECTION		1
1	04/11/2011	04/15/2011	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
			OL EXAM - INITIAL EXAM PREP		4
1	04/11/2011	04/15/2011	V23348	OCONEE/APRIL 2011 EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	
			EB3SGISI - UNIT 1 SG INSERVICE INSPECTION		1
1	04/18/2011	04/22/2011	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
			OL EXAM - INITIAL EXAM WEEK		4
1	05/02/2011	05/06/2011	V23348	OCONEE/APRIL 2011 EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	
			EB2-TFPI - 805 TFPI		6
1, 2, 3	06/27/2011	07/01/2011	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
1, 2, 3	07/11/2011	07/15/2011	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
			CDBI - COMPONENT DESIGN BASES INSPECTION		9
1, 2, 3	08/15/2011	08/19/2011	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1, 2, 3	08/29/2011	09/02/2011	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1, 2, 3	09/12/2011	09/16/2011	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1, 2, 3	09/26/2011	09/30/2011	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
			PSB1EP - EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS INSPECTION		1
1, 2, 3	08/22/2011	08/26/2011	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing	
1, 2, 3	08/22/2011	08/26/2011	IP 7111403	Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
1, 2, 3	08/22/2011	08/26/2011	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1, 2, 3	08/22/2011	08/26/2011	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	
1, 2, 3	08/22/2011	08/26/2011	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

Oconee

Inspection / Activity Plan

09/01/2010 - 12/31/2011

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
			OL EXAM - INITIAL EXAM PREP		4
1	09/26/2011	09/30/2011	V23361	OCONEE/OCTOBER 2011 EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	
			OL EXAM - INITIAL EXAM WEEK		3
1	10/17/2011	10/21/2011	V23361	OCONEE/OCTOBER 2011 EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	
			PSB1-RP - RP OCCUPATIONAL WEEK 1		3
1, 2, 3	10/24/2011	10/28/2011	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1, 2, 3	10/24/2011	10/28/2011	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1, 2, 3	10/24/2011	10/28/2011	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1, 2, 3	10/24/2011	10/28/2011	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1, 2, 3	10/24/2011	10/28/2011	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	
1, 2, 3	10/24/2011	10/28/2011	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			PSB1-TI - TI-179 NSTS VERIFICATION		3
1, 2, 3	10/24/2011	10/28/2011	IP 2515/179	Verification of Licensee Responses to NRC Requirement for Inventories of Materials Tracked in NSTS	
1, 2, 3	11/14/2011	11/18/2011	IP 2515/179	Verification of Licensee Responses to NRC Requirement for Inventories of Materials Tracked in NSTS	
			EB3 ISI - UNIT 2 IN-SERVICE INSPECTION		1
2	10/31/2011	11/04/2011	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
			EB3SGISI - UNIT 2 SG INSERVICE INSPECTION		1
2	11/07/2011	11/11/2011	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
			PSB1-RP - RP OCCUPATIONAL WEEK 2		4
1, 2, 3	11/14/2011	11/18/2011	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1, 2, 3	11/14/2011	11/18/2011	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1, 2, 3	11/14/2011	11/18/2011	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1, 2, 3	11/14/2011	11/18/2011	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1, 2, 3	11/14/2011	11/18/2011	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	
1, 2, 3	11/14/2011	11/18/2011	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			PB7-PI&R - PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION AND RESOLUTION		5
1, 2, 3	11/28/2011	12/02/2011	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems	
1, 2, 3	12/12/2011	12/16/2011	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems	

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