Mr. W. R. McCollum, Jr. Vice President, Oconee Site Duke Energy Corporation P. O. Box 1439 Seneca, SC 29679

SUBJECT: OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3 RE: REQUEST FOR

WITHHOLDING INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE (TAC NOS.

MA8234, MA8235, AND MA8236)

Dear Mr. McCollum:

By your application dated February 10, 2000, and affidavit dated February 14, 2000, executed by Mr. M. S. Tuckman of Duke Energy Corporation, you submitted Topical Report DPC-NE-2003, Revision 1, *Core Thermal-Hydraulic Methodology Using VIPRE-01*, and requested that the section of the submittal marked "Proprietary" be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790. A nonproprietary version was submitted for placement in the NRC files.

The affidavit stated that the submitted information should be considered exempt from mandatory public disclosure because the information consists of analysis methodology details, analysis results, supporting data, and aspects of development programs relative to a method of analysis that provide a competitive advantage to Duke.

We have reviewed your application and the material in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.790 and, on the basis of your statements, have determined that the submitted information sought to be withheld contains proprietary commercial information and should be withheld from public disclosure.

Therefore, the section of the submitted information marked as proprietary will be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790(b)(5) and Section 103(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Withholding from public inspection shall not affect the right, if any, of persons properly and directly concerned to inspect the documents. If the need arises, we may send copies of this information to our consultants working in this area. We will, of course, ensure that the consultants have signed the appropriate agreements for handling proprietary information.

If the basis for withholding this information from public inspection should change in the future such that the information could then be made available for public inspection, you should promptly notify the NRC. You also should understand that the NRC may have cause to review

this determination in the future, for example, if the scope of a Freedom of Information Act request includes your information. In all review situations, if the NRC makes a determination adverse to the above, you will be notified in advance of any public disclosure.

Sincerely,

/RA/

David E. LaBarge, Senior Project Manager, Section 1 Project Directorate II Division of Licensing Project Management Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270, and 50-287

cc: See next page

this determination in the future, for example, if the scope of a Freedom of Information Act request includes your information. In all review situations, if the NRC makes a determination adverse to the above, you will be notified in advance of any public disclosure.

Sincerely,

/RA/

David E. LaBarge, Senior Project Manager, Section 1 Project Directorate II **Division of Licensing Project Management** Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270, and 50-287

cc: See next page

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Oconee Nuclear Station

CC:

Ms. Lisa F. Vaughn Legal Department (PBO5E) Duke Energy Corporation 422 South Church Street Charlotte, North Carolina 28201-1006

Anne W. Cottingham, Esquire Winston and Strawn 1400 L Street, NW Washington, DC 20005

Mr. Rick N. Edwards Framatome Technologies Suite 525 1700 Rockville Pike Rockville, Maryland 20852-1631

Manager, LIS NUS Corporation 2650 McCormick Drive, 3rd Floor Clearwater, Florida 34619-1035

Senior Resident Inspector U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 7812B Rochester Highway Seneca, South Carolina 29672

Virgil R. Autry, Director
Division of Radioactive Waste Management
Bureau of Land and Waste Management
Department of Health and Environmental
Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201-1708

Mr. L. E. Nicholson Compliance Manager Duke Energy Corporation Oconee Nuclear Site 7800 Rochester Highway Seneca, South Carolina 29672

Ms. Karen E. Long
Assistant Attorney General
North Carolina Department of
Justice
P. O. Box 629
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602

Mr. C. Jeffrey Thomas
Manager - Nuclear Regulatory
Licensing
Duke Energy Corporation
526 South Church Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28201-1006

Mr. Richard M. Fry, Director Division of Radiation Protection North Carolina Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources 3825 Barrett Drive Raleigh, North Carolina 27609-7721

Mr. Steven P. Shaver
Senior Sales Engineer
Westinghouse Electric Company
5929 Carnegie Blvd.
Suite 500
Charlotte, North Carolina 28209