



H. B. Barron
Vice President

Duke Energy Corporation

McGuire Nuclear Station
12700 Hagers Ferry Road
Huntersville, NC 28078-9340
(704) 875-4800 OFFICE
(704) 875-4809 FAX

March 9, 2001

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

Subject: Duke Energy Corporation
McGuire Nuclear Station
Docket No. 50-369
MRP 82/182 Weld Integrity

Duke Energy Corporation is participating in the 82/182 Weld Integrity Inspection Committee for MRP Alloy 600 ITG. The Committee met in Charlotte on February 1, 2001, to review the V. C. Summer Reactor Pressure Vessel "A" Hot Leg Nozzle and the Oconee, Unit 1 Control Rod Drive Mechanism (CRDM) weld cracking events. McGuire will adopt, to the extent practical, recommendations provided by the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) for inclusion in the upcoming Unit 1 ten year ISI inspection program. The recommendations are summarized below.

- Review Generic Letter 88-05 Boron Inspection and ASME Pressure Testing Programs considering the events at Oconee and V. C. Summer. There will not be any visual inspection of the upper head enclosures this outage. Visual Inspections in areas near reactor coolant piping will be used to identify any excessive boron accumulation.
- Review leak detection programs considering the events at Oconee and V. C. Summer. Operators and inspectors are sensitive to small changes in leak rates and to potential leak sources.
- Review with ISI vendors the events at V.C. Summer and Oconee and sensitize inspectors to inspection capabilities, limitations and results. For 82/182 welds being inspected this outage, review previous inspection results and history for significant obstructions, limitations and findings.

A001

- McGuire will continue with current plans that include ultrasonic techniques applied from the inside surface of the nozzle. The Committee has determined that this is the best available technique at this time, and is considered adequate for the Unit 1 EOC14 outage. Qualified inspectors will be used on inspections.
- Ensure that inspection personnel are knowledgeable of the ISI vendor's techniques, capabilities and limitations. A demonstration of the capability of UT using the EPRI NDE mockup center was conducted on February 21, 2001.
- McGuire will communicate inspection planning, techniques, and results with the EPRI NDE Center, which is the focal point of the industry efforts in this area of technology.

These recommendations will be implemented at McGuire considering the current capabilities of available inspection techniques and equipment and the availability of inspection mock-ups. This letter supplements information related to the Unit 1 EOC14 ten year ISI inspection plan presented to the NRC staff during the McGuire Plant Performance Update Meeting on February 13, 2001.

Longer range plans will address applicability and alternatives with respect to McGuire Unit 2 and future outages. Duke Energy is not requesting any NRC review and is not seeking any Agency approvals for these plans. There are no regulatory commitments contained in this correspondence.



H. B. Barron

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Page 3

Mr. R. E. Martin (08D12)
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Washington, D.C. 20555

Mr. L. A. Reyes
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth St., SW, Suite 23T85
Atlanta, GA 30303

Mr. C. E. Carpenter, Jr.
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Washington, D. C. 20555

Mr. S. M. Shaeffer
Senior Resident Inspector
McGuire Nuclear Station

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Page 4

bxc: T. Alley
R. Branch
M. Robinson
EC050-ELL
RGC File