

December 27, 1984

DMB 016

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

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Mr. H. B. Tucker
Vice President - Steam Production
Duke Power Company
P. O. Box 33189
422 South Church Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28242

Dear Mr. Tucker:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Exemption to certain requirements of Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50 in response to your October 24, 1983 letter as supplemented on August 8, 1984. The Exemption pertains to the requirement for emergency lighting, with at least an eight-hour battery power supply for the Safe Shutdown Facility and the yard access route thereto.

A copy of the Exemption is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

"ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:"

Helen Nicolaras, Project Manager
Operating Reactors Branch #4
Division of Licensing

Enclosure:
Exemption

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

*See previous white for concurrences.

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Mr. H. B. Tucker
Vice President - Steam Production
Duke Power Company
P. O. Box 33189
422 South Church Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28242

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Dear Mr. Tucker:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Exemption to certain requirements of ~~10 CFR 50.40~~ and Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50 in response to your October 24, 1983 letter as supplemented on August 8, 1984. The Exemption pertains to the requirement for emergency lighting, with at least an eight-hour battery power supply for the Safe Shutdown Facility and the yard access route thereto.

A copy of the Exemption is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Helen Nicolaras, Project Manager
Operating Reactors Branch #4
Division of Licensing

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Exemption

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

December 28, 1984

DISTRIBUTION:

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ORB#4 Rdg

RIngram

DOCKET No. 50-269, 50-270,
and 50-287

MEMORANDUM FOR: Docketing and Service Branch
Office of the Secretary of the Commission

FROM: Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS NOS. 1, 2 AND 3

One signed original of the *Federal Register* Notice identified below is enclosed for your transmittal to the Office of the Federal Register for publication. Additional conformed copies (6) of the Notice are enclosed for your use.

- ☐ Notice of Receipt of Application for Construction Permit(s) and Operating License(s).
- ☐ Notice of Receipt of Partial Application for Construction Permit(s) and Facility License(s): Time for Submission of Views on Antitrust Matters.
- ☐ Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License.
- ☐ Notice of Receipt of Application for Facility License(s); Notice of Availability of Applicant's Environmental Report; and Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Facility License(s) and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing.
- ☐ Notice of Availability of NRC Draft/Final Environmental Statement.
- ☐ Notice of Limited Work Authorization.
- ☐ Notice of Availability of Safety Evaluation Report.
- ☐ Notice of Issuance of Construction Permit(s).
- ☐ Notice of Issuance of Facility Operating License(s) or Amendment(s).
- ☐ Order.
- ☒ Exemption.
- ☐ Notice of Granting of Relief.
- ☐ Other: _____

Division of Licensing, ORB#4
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
As stated

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OFFICE	ORB#4"DL						
SURNAME	RIngram, cf						
DATE	12/31/84						

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Duke Power Company

cc w/enclosure(s):

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Charlotte, North Carolina 28242

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Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

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County Supervisor of Oconee County
Walhalla, South Carolina 29621

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Washington, D. C. 20036

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of

DUKE POWER COMPANY

(Oconee Nuclear Station,
Units Nos. 1, 2 and 3)

)
)
)
)
)

Dockets Nos. 50-269
50-270 and 50-287

EXEMPTION

I.

The Duke Power Company (the licensee), is the holder of Facility Operating Licenses Nos. DPR-38, DPR-47, and DPR-55 which authorize the operation of the Oconee Nuclear Station, Units Nos. 1, 2 and 3 (the facilities) at reactor power levels not in excess of 2568 megawatts thermal (rated power) for each unit. The facilities are Babcock & Wilcox (B&W) designed pressurized water reactors (PWR's) located at the licensee's site in Oconee County, South Carolina.

The licenses are subject to all rules, regulations and orders of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) now or hereafter in effect.

II.

10 CFR 50.48, "Fire Protection", and Appendix R to 10 CFR Part 50, "Fire Protection Program for Nuclear Power Facilities Operating Prior to January 1, 1979", set forth certain specific fire protection features required to satisfy the General Design Criterion related to fire protection (Criterion 3, Appendix A to 10 CFR 50).

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Section III.J of Appendix R states that, "Emergency lighting units with at least an eight-hour battery power supply shall be provided in all areas needed for operation of safe shutdown equipment and in access and egress routes thereto."

III.

By letter dated October 24, 1983 as supplemented on August 8, 1984, the licensee requested an exemption from Section III.J for eight-hour battery powered emergency lighting for the yard access route outside the auxiliary building and the standby shutdown facility (SSF) at the Oconee Nuclear Station.

The SSF is a structure separated from those other areas of the plant which contain equipment normally used for safe shutdown. The emergency shutdown equipment and controls located in the SSF will be used to maintain the plant in a safe shutdown condition if a fire damages normal plant controls or shutdown equipment. In the event of a fire necessitating use of the SSF, the plant operators would leave the main control room, pass through the auxiliary building and across the yard to the SSF.

In a letter dated August 8, 1984, the licensee states that he met his commitment to install by May 1, 1984, eight-hour battery backed emergency lighting in the control room for each unit. Additionally, the licensee has committed to install eight-hour battery backed emergency lighting in the stairwells and corridors from each unit's control room to an outside door of the auxiliary building.

-3-

Illumination for the yard area between the auxiliary building and the SSF is provided by security lighting. The security lighting can be powered from onsite sources in the event of a loss of offsite power. To ensure safe operator access to the SSF, the licensee has committed to provide battery-powered hand lanterns for operator usage.

Lighting for the SSF itself is provided by an AC lighting system and a backup DC system which is powered from batteries located in the SSF. The DC lighting system has a 90 minute capacity without recharge. The DC lighting system actuates on loss of AC power. Additionally, the SSF houses an auxiliary diesel generator which provides the emergency power for plant shutdown from the SSF. This auxiliary diesel generator is capable of providing continuous charging to the DC batteries of the SSF.

Since the SSF is provided with an independent lighting system with the capability of continuous lighting in excess of the eight-hour battery requirement, we conclude that the exemption from the battery-powered emergency lighting requirement of Section III.J of Appendix R to 10 CFR 50 for the SSF is justified. Since the lighting provided outside the auxiliary building which is backed by the hand lanterns is adequate to ensure safe operator access to the SSF, we conclude that the exemption from the eight-hour battery powered emergency lighting requirement of Section III.J of Appendix R to 10 CFR 50 for the yard access route outside the auxiliary building is also justified. Therefore, we conclude that the Appendix R, Section III.J, exemption for Oconee Units 1, 2 and 3 should be granted.

-4-


IV.

Accordingly, the Commission has determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12(a), the exemption requested by the licensee's letter of October 24, 1983 as supplemented on August 8, 1984, is authorized by law, will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security, and is otherwise in the public interest. The Commission hereby grants to the licensee an exemption from the requirements of Appendix R (Section III.J) on emergency lighting.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.32, the Commission has determined that the issuance of the exemption will have no significant impact on the environment (49 FR 48625).

This Exemption is effective upon issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION


Darrell G. Eisenhut, Director
Division of Licensing

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland
this 27th day of December 1984