

REGULATORY DOCKET FILE COPY

FEBRUARY 07 1980

Docket Nos. 50-270
and 50-287

Mr. William O. Parker, Jr.
Vice President - Steam Production
Duke Power Company
Post Office Box 2178
422 South Church Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28242

Dear Mr. Parker:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Order Modifying the January 2, 1980 Show Cause Order for Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 2 and 3. Your January 15, 1980 response requested that the sequential shut down of the Oconee units be allowed, based on power reliability, such that at no time prior to May 31, 1980, will two or more units be out of service as a result of the Order. We have determined that good cause has been shown to modify the Order to extend Unit 3 shutdown to March 15, 1980.

The modified Order requires that Unit 2 be shutdown after Unit 1 reaches full power, Unit 3 be shutdown on or before March 15, 1980, and a dedicated qualified person be stationed in the control room to monitor certain valves. The Order may be modified if additional power reliability information is provided and we conclude that severe reliability impacts extend beyond March 15, 1980.

A copy of this Order is being filed with the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Order Modifying January 2, 1980
Show Cause Order

cc w/enc1:
See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

February 7, 1980

Docket Nos. 50-270
and 50-287

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Vice President - Steam Production
Duke Power Company
Post Office Box 2178
422 South Church Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28242

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A copy of this Order is being filed with the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Harold R. Denton", is written over a horizontal line.

Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Order Modifying January 2, 1980
Show Cause Order

cc w/encl:
See next page

Duke Power Company

- 2 - February 7, 1980

cc w/enclosure(s):

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Charlotte, North Carolina 28242

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Oconee Public Library
201 South Spring Street
Walhalla, South Carolina 29691

Honorable James M. Phinney
County Supervisor of Oconee County
Walhalla, South Carolina 29621

Director, Technical Assessment
Division
Office of Radiation Programs
(AW-459)
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Crystal Mall #2
Arlington, Virginia 20460

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of

DUKE POWER COMPANY
(Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 2 and 3)Docket No. 50-270
50-287ORDER MODIFYING JANUARY 2, 1980
SHOW CAUSE ORDER

I

On January 2, 1980 Duke Power Company (the licensee) was issued an Order to Show Cause why it should not, by February 15, 1980, implement all "Category A" Lessons Learned requirements or shut down Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 2 and 3 unless among other things, a shutdown would severely impact the power reliability of the Virginia-Carolina (VACAR) subregion of the Southeastern Electric Reliability Council. The Order provided that it was temporarily effective pending further order.

II

The licensee answered the Order on January 15, 1980 requesting on the basis of power reliability that sequential shutdown of the Oconee units be allowed such that at no time prior to May 31, 1980 will two or more units be out of service as a result of the Order. A shutdown is necessary to meet the two outstanding requirements which pertain to direct indication of valve positions and containment isolation. The licensee has indicated that it could adopt compensatory measures consisting of a dedicated man to monitor valves in the control room until the outstanding requirements are met.

The Department of Energy has reviewed the power reliability for the VACAR area and concluded that there is a risk of severe system reliability impacts if two of the three Oconee units are shut down during the February 15, 1980 to March 15,

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1980 period. If March is colder than expected, the potentially severe reliability impacts may extend until the end of March.

III

In view of the power reliability analysis conducted by DOE and the compensatory measures which the licensee could take, I find good cause shown to modify the January 2, 1980 Order. Accordingly, pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, and the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR Parts 2 and 50, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the January 2, 1980 Order is modified as follows:

- (a) Unit 2 shall be shut down for implementation of the Category A Lessons Learned requirements after Unit 1 reaches full power operation, but no later than March 15, 1980,
- (b) Unit 3 shall be shut down for implementation of the Category A Lessons Learned requirements on or before March 15, 1980,
- (c) Until Unit 3 is shut down the licensee shall provide a dedicated qualified person in the control room to monitor the PORV and safety valves, to close any valve that might be open in case a low reactor coolant system pressure signal is generated, and to notify control operator if any out-of-normal indications are noted, and
- (d) The requirement that Unit 3 be shut down by March 15, 1980, may be modified if additional power reliability information is provided and NRC concludes that severe reliability impacts extend past March 15, 1980.

For the reasons given in the January 2, 1980, Order, I find that the public health, safety, and interest requires that this Modification Order be effective immediately.

IV

The licensee may file a written answer to this Order under oath or affirmation within twenty (20) days of the date of the Order. The licensee or any other person whose interest may be affected by this Order may request a hearing within twenty (20) days of the date of the Order. Any request for a hearing will not stay the temporary effectiveness of this Order. Any request for a hearing shall be addressed to the Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C., 20555. If a hearing is requested by a person whose interest may be affected by this Order, the Commission will issue an Order designating the time and place of any such hearing. In the event a hearing is requested, the issue to be considered at such hearing shall be:

whether the remaining "Category A" requirements and the compensatory measures should be implemented in accordance with the schedule prescribed by this Order.

Operation of the facility on terms consistent with this Order is not stayed by the pendency of any proceedings on the Order.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland
this 7th day of February, 1980