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FEBRUARY 07 1980

Docket Nos. 50-270  
and 50-287

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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 show 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/encl:  
 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

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

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Harold R. Denton".

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

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region IV Office  
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Atlanta, Georgia 30308

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Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

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  
50-287

ORDER 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,

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