

April 24, 2002

LICENSEE: DUKE ENERGY COMPANY

FACILITY: OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1, 2 AND 3

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH DUKE ENERGY TO DISCUSS DIGITAL UPGRADE TO THE REACTOR PROTECTION SYSTEM AND THE ENGINEERED SAFETY FEATURES ACTUATION SYSTEM AT OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1, 2 AND 3 (TAC NOS. MB4278, MB4279, AND MB4280)

On March 7, 2002, members of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and Duke Energy Company (the licensee) met in Rockville, Maryland to discuss digital upgrades to the Reactor Protection System (RPS) and the Engineered Safety Features Actuation System (ESFAS) at Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2 and 3. A list of the meeting attendees is provided in the attachment. The handouts provided by the licensee during the meeting are accessible electronically from the Agencywide Documents and Management System (ADAMS) Public NRC website, <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/html> under accession number ML020700283. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS, or who encounter problems in accessing documents located in ADAMS, should contact the NRC PDR Reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov.

The licensee is planning to implement this digital upgrade because the analog systems are becoming obsolete. The licensee is proposing to take credit for the NRC-approved FANP TXS platform and will follow the guidelines in Branch Technical Position (BTP) HICB-19 and EPRI TR-102348, Revision 1, "Guideline on Licensing Digital Upgrades." Consistent with the BTP guidelines, the licensee plans to analyze Updated Final Safety Analysis Report Chapters 10 and 15 transients and accidents to demonstrate the acceptability of a software common mode failure (SWCMF). BTP HICB-19 guidelines allow an analytical approach that uses less than traditional conservatism for a SWCMF since it is a beyond-design basis event. The licensee presented the analytical methodology and assumptions that it plans to use. The licensee stated that it will perform the analysis which supports the digital upgrade only once and not revise this analysis for each reload, since the SWCMF is a low-probability, beyond-design basis event.

The staff generally agreed that the licensee's planned licensing approach appeared to be reasonable and to meet NRC guidelines for digital upgrades. The staff stated that it would like to make periodic visits to the appropriate locations to audit the development of the system. The licensee agreed to accommodate this request.

/RA/

Leonard N. Olshan, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: List of Attendees

cc w/encl: See next page

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: List of Attendees

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DATE	4/23/02	4/23/02	4/ 24/02

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Oconee Nuclear Station

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MARCH 7, 2002

MEETING TO DISCUSS OCONEE DIGITAL UPGRADES TO RPS AND ESFAS

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C. Graham
H. Li
J. Lee
P. Loeser
E. Marinos
L. Olshan
S. Sun
D. Tiff
M. Waterman

DUKE ENERGY

R. Bondurant
B. Geddes
T. Ledford
M. Miller
B. Shingleton
S. Schultz
G. Swindlehurst

OTHER

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D. Herrell, MPR Associates
J. Mauck, Framatome ANP
D. Woodlaw, TXU Energy

Enclosure