

April 30, 2003

Mr. Ronald A. Jones
Vice President, Oconee Site
Duke Energy Corporation
7800 Rochester Highway
Seneca, SC 29672

SUBJECT: OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1, 2 AND 3 RE: ISSUANCE OF
AMENDMENTS (TAC NOS. MB6933, MB6934 AND MB6935)

Dear Mr. Jones:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment Nos. 330, 330, and 331 to Renewed Facility Operating Licenses DPR-38, DPR-47, and DPR-55, respectively, for the Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3. The amendments consist of changes to the Technical Specifications in response to your application dated December 4, 2002.

The amendments revise TS 3.7.6 to require a minimum combined inventory of 155,000 gallons and remove the Condensate Storage Tank as a source of the combined inventory.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. A Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's biweekly *Federal Register* notice.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

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

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 330 to DPR-38
2. Amendment No. 330 to DPR-47
3. Amendment No. 331 to DPR-55
4. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

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DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION

DOCKET NO. 50-269

OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1

AMENDMENT TO RENEWED FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 330
Renewed License No. DPR-38

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment to the Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 1 (the facility) Renewed Facility Operating License No. DPR-38 filed by the Duke Energy Corporation (the licensee) dated December 4, 2002, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations as set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.
2. Accordingly, the license is hereby amended by page changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and Paragraph 3.B of Renewed Facility Operating License No. DPR-38 is hereby amended to read as follows:

B. Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 330, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

John A. Nakoski, Chief, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:
Technical Specification
Changes

Date of Issuance: April 30, 2003

DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION

DOCKET NO. 50-270

OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 2

AMENDMENT TO RENEWED FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 330
Renewed License No. DPR-47

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment to the Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 2 (the facility) Renewed Facility Operating License No. DPR-47 filed by the Duke Energy Corporation (the licensee) dated December 4, 2002, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations as set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.
2. Accordingly, the license is hereby amended by page changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and Paragraph 3.B of Renewed Facility Operating License No. DPR-47 is hereby amended to read as follows:

B. Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 330, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

John A. Nakoski, Chief, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:
Technical Specification
Changes

Date of Issuance: April 30, 2003

DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION

DOCKET NO. 50-287

OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 3

AMENDMENT TO RENEWED FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 331
Renewed License No. DPR-55

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment to the Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 3 (the facility) Renewed Facility Operating License No. DPR-55 filed by the Duke Energy Corporation (the licensee) dated December 4, 2002, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations as set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.
2. Accordingly, the license is hereby amended by page changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and Paragraph 3.B of Renewed Facility Operating License No. DPR-55 is hereby amended to read as follows:

B. Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 331, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

John A. Nakoski, Chief, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:
Technical Specification
Changes

Date of Issuance: April 30, 2003

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 330
RENEWED FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-38
DOCKET NO. 50-269
AND
TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 330
RENEWED FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-47
DOCKET NO. 50-270
AND
TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 331
RENEWED FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-55
DOCKET NO. 50-287

Replace the following pages of the Appendix A Table of Contents, Technical Specifications and associated Bases with the attached revised pages. The revised pages are identified by amendment number and contain marginal lines indicating the areas of change.

<u>Remove</u>	<u>Insert</u>
Table of Contents iii	Table of Contents iii
Bases Table of Contents iii	Bases Table of Contents iii
3.7.6-1	3.7.6-1
B 3.7.6-1	B 3.7.6-1
B 3.7.6-2	B 3.7.6-2
B 3.7.6-3	B 3.7.6-3v

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO

AMENDMENT NO. 330 TO RENEWED FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE DPR-38

AMENDMENT NO. 330 TO RENEWED FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE DPR-47

AND AMENDMENT NO. 331 TO RENEWED FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE DPR-55

DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION

OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3

DOCKET NOS. 50-269, 50-270, AND 50-287

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated December 4, 2002, Duke Energy Corporation (the licensee) submitted a request for changes to the Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3, Technical Specification (TS) 3.7.6 to change the minimum combined inventory available to feed the steam generators for decay heat removal from 72,000 gallons to 155,000 gallons and eliminate the condensate storage tank (CST) as a source of this inventory. The combined inventory is now contained in the upper surge tank (UST) and hotwell (HW).

2.0 REGULATORY EVALUATION

The combined inventory available to feed the steam generators for decay heat removal is included in TS 3.7.6 to satisfy Criteria 2 and 3 of Title 10 *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 50.36(c)(2)(ii).

Criterion 2 requires that a TS be established for a process variable, design feature, or operating restriction that is an initial condition of a design basis accident or transient analysis that either assumes the failure of or presents a challenge to the integrity of a fission product barrier.

Criterion 3 requires that a TS be established for a structure, system, or component that is part of the primary success path and that functions or actuates to mitigate a design basis accident or transient that either assumes the failure of or presents a challenge to the integrity of a fission product barrier.

The inventory available in the UST and the HW meet the requirements of Criteria 2 and 3 of 10 CFR 50.36(c)(2)(ii).

3.0 TECHNICAL EVALUATION

In a May 20, 2002, the licensee proposed changes to the design basis requirements for the emergency feedwater (EFW) system. Among other things, the proposed changes: a) revised inventory requirements for the EFW system, and b) changed the assured water source for the EFW system.

As discussed in these submittals, the licensee determined that 155,000 gallons of water would be sufficient for satisfying plant cooldown requirements. Previous calculations were based on less conservative assumptions and indicated that only 72,000 gallons were required to perform this function. Also, in order to better assure the availability of cooling water following a seismic event, the licensee, in these submittals, proposed to change the plant design basis to credit the UST and the HW as the assured water sources for the EFW pumps, and to no longer include credit for the CST. The UST and HW are seismically qualified, while the CST is not. Because the requirements stated in TS 3.7.6., "Condensate Storage Tank (CST), Upper Surge Tank (UST), and Hotwell (HW)," were not commensurate with the changes that were proposed to the EFW system design basis, the licensee committed to submit a proposed change to TS 3.7.6 following NRC approval of the June 21 request. The NRC approved the proposed changes to the EFW system design basis by issuance of Amendment Nos. 325, 325, and 326 dated June 11, 2002. As an interim measure to assure compliance with the approved changes to the EFW system design basis requirements while TS 3.7.6 was being changed, the licensee implemented a Selected License Commitment to maintain at least 155,000 usable gallons in the HW and UST (combined inventory).

The licensee's submittal dated December 4, 2002, which is the subject of this evaluation, proposed changes to TS 3.7.6 to: a) eliminate credit for the CST as an assured inventory source for the EFW system, thereby crediting only the UST and HW for this purpose; and b) change the minimum required combined usable inventory of the UST and HW from 72,000 gallons to 155,000 gallons. The proposed changes are commensurate with the revised EFW system design basis as discussed above and previously approved by the NRC, and they satisfy the licensee's commitment to propose changes to TS 3.7.6. Therefore, the staff concludes that the proposed changes to TS 3.7.6 are acceptable.

4.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the South Carolina State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendments. The State official had no comments.

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendments change requirements with respect to installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Commission) staff has determined that the amendments involve no significant increase in the amounts and no significant change in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendments involve no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (68 FR 2801). Accordingly, the amendments meet the

eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendments.

6.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendments will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: J. Ortega-Luciano, NRR

Date: April 30, 2003

Oconee Nuclear Station

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