

May 30, 2003

MEMORANDUM TO: John A. Nakoski, Chief, Section 1  
Project Directorate II  
Division of Licensing Project Management, NRR

FROM: Leonard N. Olshan, Project Manager, Section 1  
Project Directorate II **/RA/**  
Division of Licensing Project Management, NRR

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MAY 16, 2003, PHONE CALL TO DISCUSS  
INSPECTION OF LOWER REACTOR VESSEL HEAD AT OCONEE  
NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3

On May 16, 2003, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) held a phone call with Duke Energy Company (the licensee) to discuss the inspection of the lower reactor vessel head at Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3. Stephanie Coffin, Nihar Ray, Alan Wang, Mark Lesser, and I were the NRC participants.

The licensee stated that it performs a VT-2 inspection of the lower reactor vessel head and surrounding areas that complies with the ASME Code. The insulation surrounding the lower reactor vessel head is not removed for these inspections. These inspections have not identified any indications of leakage from the bottom of the reactor vessel.

During the Fall 2003 refueling outage of Unit 1, the Spring 2004 refueling outage of Unit 2, and the Fall 2004 refueling outage of Unit 3, the licensee is planning to drop the insulation at the bottom of the reactor vessel and perform a bare-metal visual examination of the lower reactor vessel head. (The steam generators are being replaced during these 3 outages.) The licensee has not yet decided whether it will continue the practice of performing a bare-metal visual examination of the lower reactor vessel head after it completes these three examinations.

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