January 3, 2005

LICENSEE: Duke Energy Corporation

FACILITY: Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF NOVEMBER 17, 2004, MEETING TO DISCUSS LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST FOR DIGITAL UPGRADE OF RPS/ESPS (TAC NOS. MB8086, MB8087, AND MB8088)

On November 17, 2004, a Category 1 meeting was held between the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and representatives from Duke Energy Corporation (the licensee) at NRC Headquarters, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a license amendment request that the licensee will be submitting to accommodate the digital upgrade of the Oconee Reactor Protective System/Engineered Safeguards Protective System (RPS/ESPS). A list of attendees is provided in Attachment 1. Attachment 2 are the slides presented by the licensee during the meeting.

By letter dated March 20, 2003, the licensee submitted a defense-in-depth and diversity (D3) analysis to support the digital upgrade of RPS/ESPS. In the event of a common mode failure of the digital RPS/ESPS, the D3 analysis concluded that all transients and accidents, with the exception of the large break loss-of-coolant (LOCA) accident, could be adequately mitigated assuming reasonable operator actions. The D3 analysis took credit for leakage detection systems to eliminate consideration of the large break LOCA. Prior to the meeting, the NRC staff had informed the licensee that this application of leakage detection systems could not be approved at this time. In addition, the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) is preparing a risk-informed methodology that may be able to demonstrate that the diverse low-pressure injection actuation system (DLPIAS) does not have to be installed. However, it is not certain that the NRC staff will accept the leakage-detection-system approach or the EPRI methodology prior to the planned implementation of the digital RPS/ESPS modification, which is scheduled to begin in Fall 2006. Therefore, the licensee is designing a DLPIAS.

The licensee presented the design requirements that the licensee believes are appropriate for the DLPIAS. These design requirements are listed on pages 9, 10, and 11 of Attachment 2. The NRC staff concurred that these design requirements were appropriate for the DLPIAS.

/RA/

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

Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270, and 50-0287

Attachments: As stated

cc w/atts: See next page

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SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF NOVEMBER 17, 2004, MEETING TO DISCUSS LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST FOR DIGITAL UPGRADE OF RPS/ESPS (TAC NOS. MB8086, MB8087, AND MB8088)

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LIST OF ATTENDEES

MEETING TO DISCUSS LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST FOR

DIGITAL UPGRADE OF RPS/ESPS

NOVEMBER 17, 2004

NRC

C. Doutt
P. Loeser
E. Marinos
R. Martin
L. Olshan
P. Rebstock
C. Schulten
M. Stutzke

DUKE

R. Cornett
G. Davenport
M. Miller
D. Repko
B. Shingleton
B. Thomas

Other

P. Berry, Framatome
P. Liddle, Framatome
J. Mauck, Framatome
C. Brinkman, Westinghouse
R. Torok, Electric Power Research Institute

Attachment 1

Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3

cc:

Ms. Lisa F. Vaughn
Duke Energy Corporation
Mail Code - PB05E
422 S. Church St.
P.O. Box 1244
Charlotte, NC 28201-1244

Ms. Anne W. Cottingham, Esq.
Winston and Strawn
1400 L St, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Manager, LIS
NUS Corporation
2650 McCormick Dr., 3rd Floor
Clearwater, FL 34619-1035

Senior Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
7812B Rochester Highway
Seneca, SC 29672

Mr. Henry Porter, Director
Division of Radioactive Waste Management
Bureau of Land and Waste Management
Dept. of Health and Env. Control
2600 Bull St.
Columbia, SC 29201-1708

Mr. Michael A. Schoppman
Framatome ANP
1911 North Ft. Myer Dr.
Suite 705
Rosslyn, VA 22209

Mr. B. G. Davenport
Regulatory Compliance Manager
Oconee Nuclear Site
Duke Energy Corporation
ON03RC
7800 Rochester Highway
Seneca, SC 29672

Ms. Karen E. Long
Assistant Attorney General
NC Department of Justice
P.O. Box 629
Raleigh, NC 27602

Mr. R. L. Gill, Jr.
Manager - Nuclear Regulatory
Issues and Industry Affairs
Duke Energy Corporation
526 S. Church St.
Mail Stop EC05P
Charlotte, NC 28202

Mr. Richard M. Fry, Director
Division of Radiation Protection
NC Dept of Environment, Health, & Natural
Resources
3825 Barrett Dr.
Raleigh, NC 27609-7721

Mr. Peter R. Harden, IV
VP-Customer Relations and Sales
Westinghouse Electric Company
6000 Fairview Road
12th Floor
Charlotte, NC 28210

Mr. Henry Barron
Group Vice President, Nuclear Generation
and Chief Nuclear Officer
P.O. Box 1006-EC07H
Charlotte, NC 28201-1006

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