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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Document Control Desk

Subject: Duke Power Company LLC d/b/a Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, (Duke)
Oconee Nuclear Station
Docket Numbers 50-269, 270, and 287
NRC Withdrawal of the Safety Evaluation for the Oconee's Defense-in-Depth &
Diversity (D3) Assessment associated with Digital Upgrade of the Reactor
Protective System (RPS) and Engineered Safeguards Protective System (ESPS)

By letter dated May 12, 2006, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued a Safety Evaluation (SE) for Oconee's D3 assessment associated with the digital upgrade of the RPS and ESPS. Shortly thereafter, by telephone and letter on May 18, 2006, NRC withdrew the SE citing the desire to address this matter in connection with the NRC's future SE on the license amendment request (LAR) for the RPS/ESPS digital upgrade. During the May 18, 2006, telephone call between the NRC (M. Mayfield, C. Haney) and Duke (L. Nicholson), the NRC stated that the withdrawal was for administrative reasons only and that they did not intend to re-review the D3 assessment.

This letter confirms Duke's understanding that no further D3 assessment will be required by Duke and no further review will be required by the NRC related to D3 assessment. Duke will provide a brief summary of the D3 assessment in the re-submittal of the RPS/ESPS LAR and then reference the March 20, 2003, D3 submittal and the associated Request for Additional Information (RAI) responses.

If there are any questions regarding this submittal, please contact Boyd Shingleton at (864) 885-4716.

Very truly yours,

B. H. Hamilton, Vice President
Oconee Nuclear Site

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