



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 30, 2011

Mr. Preston Gillespie
Site Vice President
Oconee Nuclear Station
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
7800 Rochester Highway
Seneca, SC 29672

SUBJECT: OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, REGARDING APPROVAL OF A REACTOR VESSEL INTERNALS INSPECTION PLAN (TAC NOS. ME5006, ME5007, AND ME5008)

Dear Mr. Gillespie:

By letter dated November 8, 2010 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML103140599), Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (the licensee), requested the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to review and approve changes to the operating licenses for Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3, Renewed Facility Operating Licenses DPR-38, DPR-47, and DPR-55, respectively. The proposed changes requested the NRC approval of a reactor vessel internals inspection plan. The proposed inspection plan would demonstrate the basis for providing reasonable assurance that the reactor vessel internals will remain functional throughout the operational life of Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3.

The proposed plan was based on the Electric Power Research Institute's (EPRI's) materials reliability report titled, "Pressurized Water Reactor Internals Inspection and Evaluation Guidelines (MRP-227, Revision 0)," dated January 12, 2009 (ADAMS Accession No. ML090160204). At the time of the application the NRC had not reviewed and approved MRP-227, Revision 0. By letter dated June 22, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML111600498), the NRC issued its safety evaluation (SE) associated with the review of MRP 227. The licensee reviewed the SE and, as a result, by letter dated September 1, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML11251A160) requested that the NRC stop its review of the November 8, 2010, application (see Notice published in the *Federal Register* on December 14, 2010 (75 FR 77910)). The licensee further stated that it will supersede the November 8, 2010, application with a revised application by October 1, 2012. The new application will address any changes associated with the NRC's review of MRP-227.

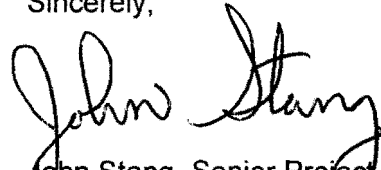
This completes the NRC's action associated with the review of the licensee's November 8, 2010, application at this time. When the NRC receives the superseded application it will review the licensee's reactor vessel internals inspection plan.

P. Gillespie

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If you have any questions, please call me at 301-415-1345.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Stang". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "J".

John Stang, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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

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P. Gillespie

- 2 -

If you have any questions, please call me at 301-415-1345.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John Stang, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch II-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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