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April 29, 1999

Mr. William R. McCollum, Jr.  
Oconee Nuclear Site  
Duke Energy Corporation  
P.O. Box 1439  
Seneca, SC 27679

SUBJECT: FOLLOWUP TO STAFF'S REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION  
DATED DECEMBER 29, 1998, RELATED TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL  
PORTION OF THE REVIEW OF THE LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION  
FOR OCONEE 1, 2, AND 3 (TAC NOS. M99162, M99163, AND M99164)

Dear Mr. McCollum:

By letter dated March 4, 1999, Duke Energy Corporation (Duke Energy) submitted its responses to the staff's December 29, 1998, request for additional information related to the environmental portion of your application for renewal of the operating licenses for the Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3 (Oconee). Over the past several weeks, the NRC staff has been in contact with Duke Energy personnel to discuss your responses and to obtain additional clarifying information. As discussed earlier this week with Mr. William Miller of your staff, you are requested to formally submit the information that is identified in the enclosure to this letter no later than COB on May 14, 1999. This will provide a referenceable basis for characterizations made in the Oconee-specific supplement to NUREG-1437, the Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants.

If you have any additional questions or comments regarding this matter, please contact me at 301-415-1108.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

James H. Wilson, Senior Project Manager  
Generic Issues, Environmental, Financial  
and Rulemaking Branch  
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270, and 50-287  
Enclosure: As stated  
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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 29, 1999

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Oconee Nuclear Site  
Duke Energy Corporation  
P.O. Box 1439  
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DATED DECEMBER 29, 1998, RELATED TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL  
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FOR OCONEE 1, 2, AND 3 (TAC NOS. M99162, M99163, AND M99164)

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If you have any additional questions or comments regarding this matter, please contact me at 301-415-1108.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James H. Wilson".

James H. Wilson, Senior Project Manager  
Generic Issues, Environmental, Financial  
and Rulemaking Branch  
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

FOLLOWUP TO STAFF'S REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION  
DATED DECEMBER 29, 1998, RELATED TO THE  
ENVIRONMENTAL PORTION OF THE STAFF'S REVIEW OF THE  
LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR OCONEE 1, 2, AND 3  
(TAC NOS. M99162, M99163, AND M99164)

GENERAL CLARIFICATIONS

1. Why is the impingement of shellfish not an issue for ONS? Please provide a reference, if available, to substantiate the response to this question.
2. Does Duke Energy or Duke Power pay the property taxes for Oconee?
3. Why are the transmission lines sometimes referred to as 500 kV lines (FES; VICAR service map) and other times as 525 kV lines (ER; RAI response). Were changes made to these lines that would account for the difference in voltage or is this more an issue of line capability versus average voltage?
4. Is there a separate radiological environmental monitoring program for the ISFSI?

ALTERNATIVES

The staff needs a basis for a discussion of alternatives that includes coal and combined cycle gas plants both with and without cooling towers. These alternatives need to be considered both at the existing site (if feasible) and at a new greenfield site.

1. Is it possible to build a coal plant or a combined cycle gas plant within, or adjacent to, the existing ONS site?
2. Is it possible to build a combined cycle gas plant within or adjacent to the existing ONS site?
3. If yes (for either option in 1 or 2 above), could the plant be built so as to use the existing Once Through Cooling System intake and discharge or would a cooling tower be required?
4. Where is the nearest gas line? Is it big enough for 100 billion cubic feet a year (to replace the energy from ONS)?

The next two questions correspond only to the Coal-fire alternative -

5. Coal Fire Alternative - Does Duke have enough Sulfur-dioxide allowances for their existing coal-fired units that could be used to operate an additional coal-fired plant or would they need to buy additional allowances?
6. Coal Fire Alternative - Do you have an estimate for the total annual carbon monoxide emissions from a 2500 MW coal-fired plant? If so, please provide.

Enclosure

## SITE DESCRIPTION

1. The staff was under the impression that the river running from Lake Keowee to Lake Hartwell was called the "Keowee River" (RAI Attachment 11.3; FES Figure II-5; Keowee-Toxaway, Supplement to Keowee-Toxaway project, Page 14). However, Figure 2.5-3 of the ER labels this river as the "Seneca River". Which name should we use to refer to the river that flows between Lake Keowee and Lake Hartwell?
2. Please provide an electronic copy of Figures 2.5-2 and 2.5-4 from the ER.
3. The attachment on RAI 6 shows a volume for Lake Jocassee of 1,160,000 ac-ft. Would this be 1,160,000?

Oconee Nuclear Station (License Renewal)

cc:

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