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W. R. McCollum, Jr.
Vice President

June 30, 1998

Director,
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Oconee Nuclear Site
Docket No. 72-04
Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation
Changes, Tests, and Experiments

Attached are descriptions of changes, tests, and experiments completed subject to the provisions of 10 CFR 72.48 for the Oconee Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) between January 1, 1997, and December 31, 1997. This report is submitted pursuant to the requirements of 10 CFR 72.48(b)(2).

If there are any questions, please contact Edwin Price at (864) 885-4388.

Very truly yours,

W. R. McCollum

Attachment

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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

June 30, 1998

Page 2

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INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (ISFSI) MODIFICATIONS

DESCRIPTION

SYSTEM: Horizontal Storage Modules (HSMs)

This ISFSI UFSAR change is per PIP 97-1801. Sections 1.1, 2.2, and 7.7 were revised to reflect new dry storage additions. NSM-52959 added the third phase of HSMs to provide for continued dry storage of spent fuel discharged from the Oconee reactors. The scope of this NSM is receipt, placement, and alignment of twenty horizontal storage modules (HSMs) of the NRC approved VECTRA General License "Standardized" NUHOMS 24-P design. This evaluation addresses Parts BS-1 & BL-1 of NSM-52959, which provides for installation of the first eight modules complete with temperature monitoring equipment. The new HSMs were pre-fabricated at Bayshore Concrete Co., shipped to Oconee, assembled onsite and placed on a permanent storage pad location already constructed within the existing ISFSI boundaries. This change also incorporates two editorial revisions: (1) the company name from Duke Power Company to Duke Energy Corporation, AND (2) General Office Nuclear Station Support to General Office Nuclear Services Division.

SAFETY EVALUATION SUMMARY

The new GL dry storage system is similar to the Oconee site specific system (License SNM-2503), and can utilize the existing fuel handling equipment, dry storage canisters (DSC) design, transport/loading equipment, and site location. For the Phase III GL design, Duke utilized its QA-4 designation for the HSMs. Although some of the license conditions may differ between the site specific and General License systems, there is no conflict since each system will be treated as a separate entity, both procedurally and in licensing space. These changes do not in any way increase the likelihood of initiation, or adversely affect the mitigation of, any ISFSI SAR described accidents. There is no increase in the consequences of any ISFSI SAR described accident. There is no adverse affect on any ISFSI SSC, and no increase in the probability of a malfunction of equipment important to safety. No new radiological release pathways, or failure modes are created. No ISFSI SSCs are degraded. This activity also has no effect on any margins of safety as previously evaluated in the ISFSI SAR. There is no increase in occupational radiation exposure and no environmental impact. The system remains non-effluent. No USQs are involved with either the modification or the corresponding ISFSI UFSAR changes, and no ISFSI Technical Specification changes are required. The plant ISFSI UFSAR sections 1.1, 1.2., and 7.7 were revised, accordingly.

INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION (ISFSI) MODIFICATIONS

DESCRIPTION

SYSTEM: Transport Cask

This ISFSI UFSAR change is per PIP 97-4123. Sections 4.0, 4.1, 4.3.3.3, and Figures A-4, A-29 were revised to clarify the proper transport cask and trailer route to and from the ISFSI. The existing ISFSI UFSAR text and diagrams depict an alternate route around the east side of the Turbine Building. In fact, the Radwaste Facility trench was never modified to support the heavy load, therefore this route is not viable and was removed.

SAFETY EVALUATION SUMMARY

There are no Licensing requirements for having an alternate ISFSI transfer route. There are no physical changes to the ISFSI or any SSCs. This change does not in any way increase the likelihood of initiation, or adversely affect the mitigation of, any ISFSI SAR described accidents. There is no increase in the consequences of any ISFSI SAR described accident. There is no adverse affect on any ISFSI SSC, and no increase in the probability of a malfunction of equipment important to safety. No new radiological release pathways, or failure modes are created. No ISFSI SSCs are degraded. This activity also has no effect on any margins of safety as previously evaluated in the ISFSI SAR. There is no increase in occupational radiation exposure and no environmental impact. The system remains non-effluent. No USQs are involved with this ISFSI UFSAR changes, and no ISFSI Technical Specification changes are required. The plant ISFSI UFSAR sections 1.1, 1.2., and 7.7 were revised, accordingly.