



Duke Energy Corporation

Oconee Nuclear Station

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W. R. McCollum, Jr.
Vice President

September 22, 1998

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: Oconee Nuclear Station
Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270, 50-287
Supplemental Response to Generic Letter 96-06:
Assurance of Equipment Operability and Containment
Integrity During Design-Basis Conditions

Generic Letter (GL) 96-06, "Assurance of Equipment Operability and Containment Integrity During Design Basis Conditions", was issued on September 30, 1996. GL 96-06 requested licensees to determine if containment air cooler cooling water systems are susceptible to either waterhammer or two-phase flow conditions during postulated accident conditions and to determine if piping systems that penetrate containment are susceptible to thermal expansion of fluid that could leak to overpressurization of piping. Duke Energy Corporation (Duke) responded to GL 96-06 in submittals to the NRC dated October 29, 1996, January 28, 1997, April 15, 1997, June 30, 1997, August 1, 1997, and May 28, 1998.

In the May 28, 1998, submittal, Duke stated the process of generating force time histories was being finalized and that the resulting structural analysis of the subject piping system and attendant support structures was in progress. The generation of the force time histories for Unit 3 and the resulting structural analyses were completed August 1, 1998 and confirm that the Unit 3 LPSW system remains operable for predicted water hammers. The generation of force time histories and the resulting structural analyses for Units 1 & 2 remain in progress.

In the August 1, 1997, submittal, Duke provided expected completion dates for the various action items needed to close this issue. Action Item 11 committed to complete the Unit 1 review of piping and hanger loads based on force time histories and determine if code allowables have been exceeded with all Reactor Building Auxiliary Coolers (RBAC) valved in and all RBAC fans on. Action Item 12 committed to complete the Unit 2 review. Due to the complexities involved in generation of the appropriate force time histories based on the thermal hydraulic conditions prevalent in the LPSW system, structural analysis of the

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pipng and attendant support structures has been delayed for Units 1 & 2. Preliminary structural analysis work on these units continues to support operability of the Reactor Building Cooling Units (RBCU) and the RBACU's.

Confirmation of the conclusions regarding operability of the Unit 1 & 2 LPSW system with the RBAC's valved in and all RBAC fans on is currently scheduled for March 1, 1999, for Unit 1 and February 1, 1999, for Unit 2. Duke believes the delay is prudent based on the complexities of the issue. Duke continues to support and participate in the EPRI/NEI sponsored GL 96-06 Waterhammer Technical Design Basis work.

Please address any questions to Ed Burchfield at 864-885-3292.

Very truly yours,



W. R. McCollum, Jr.
Site Vice President

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cc: Mr. L. A. Reyes, Regional Administrator
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