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AUTH. NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
MCCOLLUM, W.R. Duke Power Co.
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SUBJECT: Forwards "USI A-46 Seismic Evaluation Rept," vols I & II & "USI A-46 Relay Evaluation Rept," vols I, II & III, to address GL 87-02, "Verification of Seismic Adequacy of Mechanical & Electrical Equipment in Operating Reactors, USI A-46."

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Duke Power Company
A Duke Energy Company

Oconee Nuclear Site
P.O. Box 1439
Seneca, SC 29679

W. R. McCollum, Jr.
Vice President

(864) 885-3107 OFFICE
(864) 885-3564 FAX

December 15, 1997

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

Subject: Oconee Nuclear Station
Docket Nos. 50-269, -270, -287
SQUG Resolution of USI A-46 (Generic Letter 87-02)

On May 22, 1992, the NRC Staff issued Generic Letter 87-02, Supplement 1, transmitting the Generic Implementation Procedure (GIP). Adherence to the GIP would provide seismic verification of nuclear plant equipment for the resolution of USI A-46. The transmittal of Supplemental Safety Evaluation Report No. 2 (SSER No.2) on the GIP to the Seismic Qualification Utility Group (SQUG) included the request that all utilities provide to the NRC within 120 days, a schedule for the implementation of the GIP. In a letter dated September 21, 1992, Duke Energy Corporation (Duke) stated that the GIP would be implemented at Oconee Nuclear Station by December 31, 1995.

In a letter dated October 3, 1995, Duke updated the NRC Staff on the progress of the resolution to USI A-46 and revised the submittal date for the USI A-46 report to December 31, 1996. In the fall of 1996, Duke discussed with the staff that a partial submittal would be made in December 1996. A partial USI A-46 report was submitted as an attachment to a letter dated December 30, 1996. The partial submittal covered the emergency power equipment which is encompassed by the Keowee Hydro Station and the overhead emergency power path through the 230 kV Oconee switchyard up to the high voltage side of the startup transformers (CT-1, CT-2, CT-3). Also, the partial submittal included the underground power path up to the high side of the underground transformer (CT-4).

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In the letter dated December 30, 1996, Duke indicated that an expected date for submittal of the remaining portion of the USI A-46 report would be provided to the NRC by March 31, 1997. Duke's letter to the NRC dated March 31, 1997, stated that the balance of the USI A-46 submittal would be made by December 15, 1997.

Attached to this letter is the submittal of the USI A-46 seismic adequacy evaluations for Oconee Nuclear Station. These seismic evaluations were performed to address NRC Generic Letter 87-02, "Verification of Seismic Adequacy of Mechanical and Electrical Equipment in Operating Reactors, Unresolved Safety Issue (USI), A-46." This submittal addresses the scope of equipment required for review, defines applications of the GIP, identifies the project team qualifications, and documents the disposition of the GIP outliers and Third-Party Audit assessments. This is one submittal which consists of two reports which are entitled: "USI A-46 Seismic Evaluation Report" (2 volumes) and "USI A-46 Relay Evaluation Report" (3 volumes).

Most of the equipment at Oconee was verified as satisfactory by the walkdown results and related evaluations. In addition, improvements were recommended as a result of the walkdowns. Of the 1487 items requiring a walkdown, 1092 of the items met the GIP criteria as currently installed. Of the 395 GIP outliers (excludes cable tray and HVAC ductwork outliers), 165 have been resolved. The 230 remaining outliers have issues which require minor physical enhancements or a detailed analytical review.

There were 22 cable tray analytical review outliers which did not meet the requirements of the GIP. Of the 22 cable tray analytical review outliers, 7 have been resolved by analysis. The remaining 15 cable tray analytical review outliers require modifications which involve 55 supports. In addition, the cable tray walkdown resulted in 75 cable tray walkdown outliers that can be divided into three groups. The three groups consist of 32 cable tray walkdown outliers that have been resolved, 22 cable tray walkdown outliers that involve block walls which need seismic qualification, and 21 cable tray walkdown outliers which require physical enhancements involving 37 supports.

The relay chatter assessment for ONS has identified the outliers that require testing and/or replacement. A total of 4942 devices have been subjected to the chatter review to support the Oconee Safe Shutdown Equipment List. 4809 of these devices have been found acceptable per the guidelines set forth in the GIP. Of the 137 devices which were not

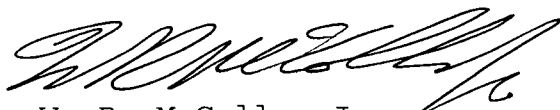
screened per the GIP, 6 outliers have been resolved. In addition, 24 low ruggedness relays will be replaced. The other 107 relay chatter assessment outliers are scheduled for testing and/or replacement.

All SQUG outliers have been evaluated to determine if the existing station licensing basis was challenged. In the event an outlier evaluation potentially challenged the licensing basis, the associated concern was logged into the appropriate station process for evaluation. The SQUG review effort produced four issues which challenged the licensing basis. All four issues were evaluated and found to be operable. Operability and reportability were addressed within the station's established procedures for such evaluations.

All SQUG outliers are going to be evaluated, modified or replaced to assure appropriate seismic adequacy. The expected completion date for the outlier resolution will be provided to the NRC by June 30, 1998. The outlier resolution scope consists of a larger number of open items. Some of the open items are interrelated such that several items will need to be resolved together in order to achieve a final resolution. The submittal of an expected completion date by June 30, 1998, will allow the outlier resolution scope to be developed. In addition, the outlier resolution scope must be integrated into the existing site work activities.

Please address any questions on this submittal to Michael Bailey at (864) 885-4390.

Very truly yours,



W. R. McCollum Jr.
Site Vice President
Oconee Nuclear Station

cc: L. A. Reyes, Regional Administrator
Region II

M. A. Scott, Senior Resident Inspector
Oconee Nuclear Site

D. E. LaBarge, Project Manager
NRR