

Mr. W. R. McCollum
Vice President, Oconee
Duke Energy Corporation
P. O. Box 1439
Seneca, SC 29679

December 18, 1997
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SUBJECT: THIRD 10-YEAR INSERVICE INSPECTION INTERVAL REQUEST FOR RELIEF
NO. 97-01 PRESSURIZER SPRAY AND STEAM GENERATOR WELDS -
OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3 (TAC NOS. M98211, M98212,
AND M98213)

Dear Mr. McCollum:

By letter dated March 13, 1997, and supplemental letter dated July 22, 1997, Duke Energy Corporation (DEC) requested relief pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(5)(iii) for the Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3. The relief from Section XI of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (Code) would allow DEC to take credit for limited ultrasonic examinations on pressurizer spray nozzle to upper head welds and certain steam generator shell circumferential welds.

The staff, with technical assistance from its contractor, the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL), has reviewed your submittal. Based on the information provided, the staff has concluded that certain inservice examinations cannot be performed to the extent required by the Code and that the coverage requirements are impractical. Furthermore, reasonable assurance of the structural integrity of the subject components has been provided by the examinations that have been performed. Therefore, relief is granted pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(i), provided that the licensee submits relief requests if actual examination coverage of corresponding Unit 1 and Unit 2 welds is less than the area examined on the listed Unit 3 welds. The relief granted is authorized by law and will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security, and is otherwise in the public interest giving due consideration to the burden that could result if the requirement were imposed on the facility.

The staff's evaluation and conclusions are contained in Enclosure 1. Enclosure 2 is the INEEL Technical Letter Report.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:
Herbert N. Berkow, Director
Project Directorate II-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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

Enclosures: As stated

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

December 18, 1997

Mr. W. R. McCollum
Vice President, Oconee Site
Duke Energy Corporation
P. O. Box 1439
Seneca, SC 29679

SUBJECT: THIRD 10-YEAR INSERVICE INSPECTION INTERVAL REQUEST FOR RELIEF
NO. 97-01 PRESSURIZER SPRAY AND STEAM GENERATOR WELDS -
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AND M98213)

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The staff's evaluation and conclusions are contained in Enclosure 1. Enclosure 2 is the INEEL Technical Letter Report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Herbert N. Berkow", is written over the typed name.

Herbert N. Berkow, Director
Project Directorate II-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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

Enclosures: As stated

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Oconee Nuclear Station

cc:

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