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AUTH.NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
SUTTO,C.A. Region 3 (Post 820201)
RECIP.NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
HAMPTON,J.W. Duke Power Co.

SUBJECT: Forwards insp repts 50-269/97-02,50-270/97-02 & 50-287/97-02 on 970503 & notice of violation.

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June 2, 1997

Mr. J. W. Hampton, Vice President
Oconee Nuclear Station
P. O. Box 1439
Seneca, SC 29679

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-269/97-02, 50-270/97-02, 50-287/97-02 AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Hampton:

On May 3, 1997, the NRC completed an inspection at your Oconee 1, 2 & 3 reactor facilities. The enclosed report presents the results of that inspection.

During the 6-week period covered by this inspection, your conduct of activities at the Oconee facilities were generally characterized by safety conscious Operations, Maintenance, and Engineering practices. Several significant issues occurred this period, Unit 2 High Pressure Injection (HPI) line weld crack at power and Unit 3 potential loss of two HPI pumps during hot shutdown conditions, that are briefly discussed in this report but will be more fully discussed in inspection reports 50-270/97-07 and 50-287/97-06, respectively. Also, four violations of NRC requirements were identified. The first violation is of concern because welds important to safety were found undersized or not inspected by procedure (two examples). The second violation is of concern because an approved 10 CFR 50, Appendix B, vendor provided materials (valve) that differed from purchase requirements and that was a causative agent in a shutdown loss of RCS inventory event. The third violation is of concern because inadequate correction and design control was taken on safety-related Reactor Building Cooling Units' fuses that impacted past operability of these units. The fourth violation is of concern because your personnel failed to perform the prerequisites of a procedure prior to starting steps in the body of the procedure that could have had an impact on low pressure service water/condenser circulating water siphon flow (on a loss of power) for the plant.

These violations are cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice), and the circumstances surrounding the violations are described in detail in the enclosed report. Please note that you are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

9706120172 970602
PDR ADOCK 05000269
Q PDR

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosures, and your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR).

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Charles A. Casto, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 1
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270, 50-287, 72-04
License Nos. DPR-38, DPR-47, DPR-55, SNM-2503

Enclosures: 1. Notice of Violation
2. Inspection Report 50-269/97-02, 50-270/97-02, 50-287/97-02

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