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SUBJECT: Submits rev to 920701 response to 10CFR50.63 requirements for SBO. Advises that five recommendations provided in SER implemented. D

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DUKE POWER

March 2, 1993

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

Subject: Oconee Nuclear Site, Units 1, 2, and 3
Docket Nos. 50-269, 270, and 287
Revised Response to 10 CFR 50.63
Requirements for Station Blackout

Gentlemen:

On March 10, 1992, the NRC issued the Safety Evaluation Report (SER) for the original Duke Power Company submittal for the Station Blackout Rule (SBO) for the Oconee Nuclear Site. This report determined that the original submittal did not meet the requirements of 10 CFR 50.63, with the most significant problem being that the submittal required evacuation of the normal plant control room. Additionally, the SER provided five recommendations and contained a request for additional information.

On June 4, 1992, Duke Power Company met with the NRC staff to discuss a proposed revision to the original SBO submittal and to address the recommendations in the SER. Following this meeting, after a brief caucus with the NRC staff, Mr. David Matthews, Director, Project Directorate II-3, stated that, based on the information presented, the revised proposal was responsive to the SBO rule requirements. However, additional details concerning the proposed revision would be required in the formal submittal. On July 1, 1992, the formal response was issued to the NRC which supplied the additional information requested and identified the schedule and means by which the recommendations would be implemented to meet the SBO rule requirements. This submittal contains the status of those recommendations and, if approved by the NRC staff, constitutes our final response to the Station Blackout Rule.

The first recommendation in the SER deals with the reliability/availability of the SSF. Historically, the SSF reliability/availability has averaged >96%. A program to control and monitor SSF reliability/availability has been implemented that meets the applicable requirements of NUMARC 87-00, Appendix B with a target value of 95%. This program was implemented on September 1, 1992.

The second recommendation addresses the need to assure a source of water available to the SSF ASW pump. As discussed in our July 1, 1992 response, supplying an alternate source of water is not cost effective for the marginal increase in availability it would provide. In order to reduce Oconee's vulnerability to a SBO event, controls have been implemented so that planned maintenance on the SSF and Keowee do not occur at the same time. This was completed on December 31, 1992.

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March 2, 1993
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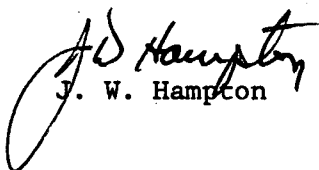
The third recommendation discusses the need for adequate battery capacity to assure the main control rooms will remain functional and manned for the full 4-hour duration. Procedures have been implemented and validated that will strip non-safety loads from unit control batteries within 30 minutes following a SBO event. This will assure normal control room functions will be available for the 4-hour coping requirement. These procedures were implemented on December 31, 1992.

The fourth recommendation deals with the effects of the loss of ventilation in the areas containing SBO equipment associated with instrumentation and control functions. This recommendation also contained a request for heatup calculations for these effected rooms. Those calculations were provided in our letter of July 1, 1992. These calculations were utilized to identify maximum starting temperatures allowed in these rooms preceding a SBO event so that these room temperatures are maintained below the values necessary to ensure operability of equipment and habitability, where required, for the 4-hour coping period. Administrative controls have been implemented through the use of Selected Licensee Commitments (SLCs) and daily monitoring of room temperatures to ensure these room temperatures are maintained below these maximum values. This SLC was approved on February 18, 1993 and monitoring of these room temperatures was commenced on February 26, 1993.

The final recommendation concerns the reliability of the on-site emergency power path which for Oconee are the Keowee hydro units. A program has been implemented which addresses the reliability and availability of Keowee that meets the applicable requirements of NUMARC 87-00, Appendix D. This program is part of the Systems Engineering Manual and was approved March 1, 1993.

If there are any questions or concerns in relation to this submittal please contact Mark E. Patrick, Oconee Regulatory Compliance Manager at (803) 885-3292.

Very truly yours,


J. W. Hampton

TDP/tdp

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