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ACCESSION NBR: 9309220188 DOC. DATE: 93/09/02 NOTARIZED: NO DOCKET #
 FACIL: 50-269 Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 1, Duke Power Co. 05000269
 50-270 Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 2, Duke Power Co. 05000270
 50-287 Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 3, Duke Power Co. 05000287

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SUBJECT: Informs that AEA Technology of U.K. in process of completing development of Inherently Safe Automatic Trip (ISAT) sys for use as RPS on LWRs. Installation of ISAT components into Unit 1 RPS Channel E expected to begin in Apr 1994.

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DUKE POWER

September 2, 1993

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

Attention: J. S. Wermiel, Branch Chief
Instrumentation & Controls Systems Branch

Subject: Oconee Nuclear Station
Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270 & 50-287
ISAT Demonstrator at Oconee Nuclear Station

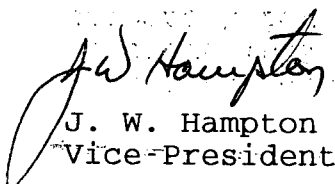
AEA Technology of the United Kingdom (U.K.) is in the process of completing development of its Inherently Safe Automatic Trip (ISAT™) System for use as a Reactor Protection System (RPS) on Light Water Reactors (LWR). ISAT™ is designed to be a digital safety-related component for use in safety systems at nuclear power stations. An ISAT™ system for reactor protection is presently installed on two gas-cooled reactors in the U.K. and has been licensed for use as a safety system by the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate (NII) in the U.K..

A task is under way to demonstrate ISAT™ in an operational (PWR) nuclear plant environment. This task involves installation of ISAT™ components into the Oconee Unit 1 RPS Channel 'E'. Equipment to be installed will replicate the existing safety-related RPS Channel 'A'. The installed equipment will be monitored for performance. This phase of the task is expected to begin in April of 1994.

In support of the projected installation, a topical report is planned for submittal to the NRC for review in the November 1993 time frame. NRC approval will be needed before the ISAT™ could be installed as an operational Reactor Protection System or as a replacement for a string of RPS modules or as an individual RPS channel in 1995.

If you have any questions, please call Mike Miller at (803) 885-4411.

Very Truly Yours,


J. W. Hampton
Vice-President

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September 2, 1993
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