

Mr. L. C. Dail

Vice President - Design Engineering

Duke Power Company P. O. Box 33189

Dockets Nos. 50-269/270/287

422 South Church Street

Charlotte, North Carolina 28242

Dear Mr. Dail:

I have discussed your March 29, 1982 letter to me with members of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) staff and have determined that a formal response to the acceptability, on a generic basis, of your proposal is within the purview of the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) rather than NRR. I have, therefore, forwarded your letter to the Division of Engineering Technology, RES, for response.

The Division of Licensing, NRR, plans no further action on your March 29, 1982 request, but would review a plant specific proposal related to any of the nuclear plants licensed, or being constructed, by Duke Power Company. Such a request should be docketed through your normal licensing process and contain sufficient bases for the staff to make an evaluation of its acceptability. In addition, there appears to be a misinterpretation of the agreements reached during our staff's February 9, 1982 meeting and subsequent March 1, 1982 telephone conferences for which the following clarification is provided:

Item 1

The ALARA concept is used to assess the economic feasibility of augmented waste treatment equipment or systems based on expected reduction in off-site collective dose during normal operation and estimated cost of the equipment (\$1000 per man-rem). It has not been used in the evaluation of structural design nor in the consideration of accident consequences.

Item 2

As specified in our Standard Review Plan, Section 15.7.3, credit for liquid retention by unlined building foundations will not be given regardless of the building seismic category because of the potential for cracks. However, we limit our assumption to the loss of the contents of a single tank rather than the total liquid contents of the building.

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Item 5

The staff addressed the need for a graded QA program which takes into consideration the relative importance to safety of each aspect of facility design. This seemed to be consistent with Duke's application of an ALARA concept with respect to QA. However, at no time did we agree that this "excludes all portions of the structure, including the seismically designed 'bathtub',...".

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact the NRC's Project Manager for Oconee - P. C. Wagner at (301) 492-8213.

Sincerely,

Original signed for

Thomas M. Novak, Assistant Director for Operating Reactors Division of Licensing

cc: See next page

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Duke Power Company

cc w/enclosure(s):

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Honorable James M. Phinney County Supervisor of Oconee County Walhalla, South Carolina 29621

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Regional Radiation Representative EPA Region IV 345 Courtland Street, N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30308

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