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AUTH. NAME: PARKER, W. D. AUTHOR AFFILIATION: Duke Power Co.
 RECIP. NAME: DENTON, H. R. RECIPIENT AFFILIATION: Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Director

SUBJECT: Forwards proposed revision to Tech Specs to incorporate NUREG-0578 Category A items, including shift technical advisor in response to NRC 800731 ltr requesting response to shift staffing criteria. Operator staffing table encl.

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Mr. H. R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Mr. R. W. Reid, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch No. 4

Subject: Oconee Nuclear Station
Docket Nos. 50-269, -270, -287

Dear Sir:

In a letter dated July 31, 1980, the NRC provided interim criteria for shift staffing and requested that Duke Power provide a response discussing plans, schedules, and commitments to meet this criteria.

In a letter dated October 2, 1980, Duke proposed a revision to the Oconee Technical Specifications to incorporate NUREG-0578 Category A items, including the Shift Technical Advisor (STA). Attachment 1 is a copy of Table 6.1-1 of the above proposal and reflects not only the STA requirement, but also the staffing requirements in the Staff letter of July 31, 1980. This table shows minimum shift crew composition for various unit conditions. The minimum staffing requirements for Oconee have been determined with all units operating above cold shutdown and an operating staff of five shifts.

In Attachment 2, Oconee Operator Staffing, the breakdown of total licensed operators, individuals in training, individuals in formal training for the purpose of meeting the educational requirements of licensed individuals, individuals available, and the minimum requirements for Oconee staffing from October, 1980 through June, 1982 is shown. An explanation of this table is provided as follows:

SENIOR REACTOR OPERATORS

At present, Oconee Nuclear Station is staffed with 42 Senior Reactor Operators. This includes 26 individuals who are designated as either Shift Supervisors or Assistant Shift Supervisors. (Assistant Shift Supervisors are qualified to provide relief as necessary under the Technical Specification requirement for Shift Supervisors. Therefore,

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these individuals have been combined in one category.) Included in these 26 SRO's is one individual assigned to Fuel Handling Operations and five individuals who are enrolled in NRC required engineering courses. Six additional SRO's fulfill the positions of Shift Technical Advisors. Ten additional SRO's hold staff engineering positions. Included in these ten individuals are the Superintendent of Operations, five Operating Engineers, three Assistant Operating Engineers, and one Engineer in the procedure area. Three of these SRO's are also enrolled in NRC required engineering courses.

In December, 1980, eight (8) individuals will take NRC/SRO exams. As Attachment 2 shows, it is assumed that six (6) of these individuals will receive their SRO License. Five of these individuals may be utilized in supervisory or non-supervisory roles. It is also assumed that the other SRO will be included in a staff SRO position. The other two (2) individuals who do not receive SRO Licenses will be utilized in RO Control Room positions.

In November, 1981, fourteen (14) individuals will take NRC/SRO exams. It is assumed that eleven (11) of these individuals will receive SRO Licenses. Eight (8) of these individuals may be utilized in supervisory or non-supervisory roles. Three (3) of these individuals will be utilized in staff SRO positions. Two (2) of those who do not receive SRO Licenses will be included in Control Operator RO positions. The other one (1) individual who does not receive an SRO will be included in staff RO position.

This will bring the total SRO staff number to fifty-nine (59) by November, 1981.

REACTOR OPERATORS

There are currently thirty-eight (38) individuals at Oconee Nuclear Station who hold Reactor Operator Licenses. Included in this number are twenty-seven (27) Control Operators or Assistant Control Operators currently assigned to shifts, seven (7) Control Operators in SRO Training, One (1) staff RO in SRO Training, and three (3) staff RO's.

In December, 1980, one (1) staff Engineer will take an RO exam. It is assumed that he will receive an RO License and will be included in the staff RO position beginning in January, 1981.

In July, 1981, sixteen (16) individuals will take an NRC/RO exam. It is assumed that thirteen (13) of these individuals will receive an RO License. Ten (10) of these individuals will fill Control Room RO positions, and three (3) will fill staff RO positions. Two (2) of those who do not receive RO Licenses will fill Equipment Operator positions and the other one (1) will fill a staff position.

In April, 1982, ten (10) individuals will take an NRC/RO exam. It is assumed that eight (8) of these individuals will receive an RO License and will fill positions of Control Room RO's. The other two (2) will fill positions of Equipment Operators.

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This will bring the total RO staff number to 43 by April, 1982.

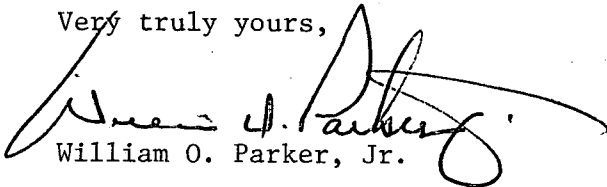
NUCLEAR EQUIPMENT OPERATORS

The staffing chart provides the number of Nuclear Equipment Operators expected to be assigned to Oconee Nuclear Station from October, 1980 through June, 1982. Allowances for attrition are accounted for in various places in Attachment 2.

In order to provide an SRO in each Control Room ten (10) additional SRO's must be available for assignment. As shown in the Table, this is projected to be achieved by November, 1981. However, this may not be fully achievable until additional RO's are available. While the minimum number of RO's required by Technical Specification is 25, Duke desires to have additional RO's available for relief purposes as well as having two RO's on shift per unit. This desired minimum number of RO's is not projected to be met until April, 1982, following the NRC/RO exam.

Thus, as discussed in the preceding, a sufficient number of SRO's and RO's should be available to man each Oconee Control Room with an SRO by May, 1982 as long as the assumptions used in the formation of this plan remain valid.

Very truly yours,



William O. Parker, Jr.

RLG:scs

Attachment