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 50-287 Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 3, Duke Power Co.

DOCKET #  
 05000269  
 05000270  
 05000287

AUTH.NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION  
 PARKER,W.O. Duke Power Co.  
 RECIP.NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION  
 DENTON,H.R. Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Director  
 REID,R.W. Operating Reactors Branch 4

SUBJECT: Provides alternate methods of nondestructive exams for welds to be performed in place of hydrostatic testing, following maint or mod.NRC 801107 ltr granted licensee relief from ASME Code requirements re hydrostatic testing.

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January 7, 1981

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

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

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

Dear Mr. Denton:

By letter dated November 7, 1980, the NRC responded to certain requests for relief and granted permanent relief from specific requirements of Section XI of the ASME Code which were determined to be impractical for Oconee. Confirming discussions held with your staff recently, the following alternate methods of NDE for welds will be performed in cases where hydrostatic testing following maintenance or modification has been determined to be impractical:

<u>TYPE OF WELD</u>	<u>ALTERNATE NDE TO BE PERFORMED</u>
All Butt Welds	Radiograph and leak test at operating pressure and temperature.
Stainless Steel Socket Welds	PT and leak test at operating pressure and temperature.
Carbon Steel Socket Welds	MT or PT and leak test at operating pressure and temperature.

NOTE: The alternate examinations listed above will be typical for all classes of pipe and will be in addition to the normal NDE required (cleanness inspection, visual, etc.).

Each weld will be hydrostatically tested during normal inservice inspection.

*Asst  
S. / 0*

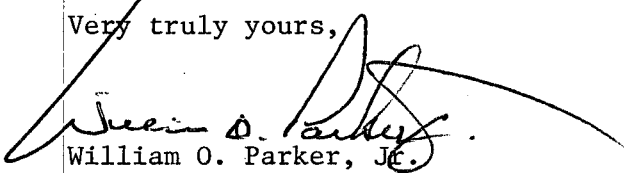
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Mr. Harold R. Denton  
January 7, 1981  
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These alternate methods of NDE are consistent with those provided in my letters dated July 21, 1978, November 28, 1978, January 26, 1979, and November 27, 1979 which were accepted by the staff. Also, as a result of these discussions, no additional requests for relief from hydrostatic testing need be submitted unless otherwise required.

Very truly yours,



William O. Parker, Jr.

SAG:bj