

November 25, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR: Ellis W. Merschoff, Acting Director
 Division of Reactor Projects

FROM: Gus C. Lainas, Assistant Director for
 Region II Reactors
 Division of Reactor Projects I/II
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - OCONEE TECHNICAL
 SPECIFICATIONS DURING REFUELING AND COLD SHUTDOWN
 (TIA 91-31)

Your memorandum dated September 27, 1991, requested NRR to review the Oconee Technical Specifications (TS) and determine if any changes were needed. In response to the recent shutdown events at Oconee, NRR had requested that Duke Power Company (DPC) perform a self-review of the Oconee TS and then meet with the NRC to present their findings and discuss any proposed corrective actions. A meeting was held with DPC on October 9, 1991, where DPC identified a number of differences between the Oconee TS and standard TS. DPC in most cases did not propose TS revisions to address these differences. Instead, interpretations of existing TS, which would be documented in the control room copies of TS for reference by the operators, would be made when existing TS were determined to be correct but prone to misinterpretation. If no TS existed where requirements were determined to be appropriate, DPC proposed to issue such requirements as a change to the Selected Licensee Commitment Manual.

Because of the continuing nature of the NRC initiative in the area of shutdown TS, the NRC staff concurred in the approach proposed by DPC. In a letter dated October 21, 1991, DPC has committed to make the changes proposed in the meeting. If the need for further changes is identified as a result of the NRC initiative in this area, NRR will address the issue with new plant-specific tasks. Therefore, this concludes our efforts on TAC Nos. 81753, 81754, and 81755.

If you have any questions, you or your staff may contact Len Wiens of my staff on FTS 492-1495.

/s/

Gus C. Lainas, Assistant Director
 for Region II Reactors
 Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555
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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "G. C. Lainas".

Gus C. Lainas, Assistant Director
for Region II Reactors
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation