



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

July 18, 1979

Dockets Nos. 50-269
50-270
and 50-287

Mr. William O. Parker, Jr.
Vice President - Steam Production
Duke Power Company
P. O. Box 2178
422 South Church Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28242

Dear Mr. Parker:

We have reviewed your response to our letter dated February 2, 1978, in regard to the potential for the reactor cavity annulus seal ring to become a destructive missile in the event of a loss-of-coolant accident pipe break inside the reactor cavity.

In your response, you indicated that the seal ring is in a raised position and does not form a seal between the vessel and the cavity during reactor operation. One licensee has informed NRC that for their seal ring the raised position does not eliminate the possibility that the seal ring could become a missile following a postulated reactor coolant pipe rupture inside the reactor vessel cavity. Therefore, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.54 (f) of the Commission's regulations you are requested to (a) demonstrate by appropriate analysis that the seal ring cannot become a destructive missile during continued long-term operation and that it poses no threat to the health and safety of the public; or (b) furnish a statement that the seal ring will be removed by no later than the next refueling outage.

Please respond within 60 days of your receipt of this letter.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Reid, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #4
Division of Operating Reactors

TTALC
CCP

cc: See next page

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Duke Power Company

cc:

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