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 FACIL: 50-270 Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 2, Duke Power Co.
 50-287 Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 3, Duke Power Co.
 AUTH. NAME: PARKER, W.O. AUTHOR AFFILIATION: Duke Power Co.
 RECIP. NAME: DENTON, H.R. RECIPIENT AFFILIATION: Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

DOCKET #
 05000270
 05000287

SUBJECT: Notices of withdrawal of 800227 request for hearing re NRC 800227 order. Util will shut down Unit 3 by 800315 in accordance w/Category A Lessons Learned requirements. Mild weather will permit shutdown.

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DUKE POWER COMPANY

POWER BUILDING

422 SOUTH CHURCH STREET, CHARLOTTE, N. C. 28242

WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT
STEAM PRODUCTION

March 13, 1980

TELEPHONE: AREA 704
373-4083

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

Re: Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 2 and 3
Docket Nos. 50-270 and 50-287
Order Modifying January 2, 1980
Show Cause Order --
Withdrawal of Request for Hearing

Dear Mr. Denton:

On February 27, 1980, Duke Power Company filed an answer pursuant to the NRC Order of February 7, 1980. In that response, Duke requested a hearing on the issue of: whether the remaining "Category A" requirements and the compensatory measures should be implemented in accordance with the schedule prescribed by this Order.

In our request for a hearing, we indicated that we were assembling data to update our previous filing with regard to projected power reliability in the Duke system and within the VACAR subregion. We indicated that our examination would include consideration of recent developments in the Florida subregion concerning the Crystal River nuclear generating facility, which is presently not in service. We further indicated that if the data did not justify a shutdown date later than March 15, 1980, for the Oconee Unit 3, the request for a hearing would be withdrawn.

Duke Power Company has examined this data and finds that the lowest weekly reserves anticipated for Duke and the VACAR subregion during the period of March 15 - April 15 are 7.8% and 12.5%, respectively. While we do not consider these reserves adequate, we believe that milder weather will allow us to maintain system integrity if we do not lose any other major units. Accordingly, Duke Power Company will shut down Oconee Unit 3 by midnight on March 15, 1980, pursuant to the Commission's Order of February 7, 1980.

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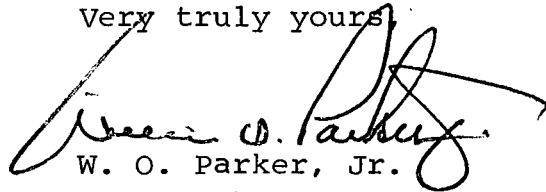
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AS/O
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ADD:
H Denton

Mr. Harold R. Denton
Page Two
March 13, 1980

Our intention to shut down Oconee Unit 3, as described above, was communicated by telephone call on March 11, 1980 from Mr. Kenneth Wilson to Mr. George Rivenbark, Project Manager, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. Mr. Walter Campbell also communicated this information by telephone call on March 10, 1980 to Mr. James M. Brown, Jr., Chief, System Reliability and Emergency Response Branch, Economic Regulatory Administration, U.S. Department of Energy.

Our request of February 27, 1980 for a hearing is hereby withdrawn.

Very truly yours,



W. O. Parker, Jr.

WOPJr./RVS/bbj

cc: Mr. Chase Stephens