



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

December 10, 1992

Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270
and 50-287

Mr. J. W. Hampton
Vice President, Oconee Site
Duke Power Company
P. O. Box 1439
Seneca, South Carolina 29679

Dear Mr. Hampton:

SUBJECT: NRC BULLETIN 88-08, "THERMAL STRESSES IN PIPING CONNECTED TO REACTOR COOLANT SYSTEMS" (TACS M69659/M69660/M69661)

By letters dated October 6, 1988, March 10, July 7, December 15, and December 29, 1989, Duke Power Company responded to NRC Bulletin 88-08 for the Oconee Nuclear Site. The NRC staff and its consultant, Brookhaven National Laboratories, reviewed your response and its supplements. In a letter dated November 1, 1991, you were informed that, based on the information in your submittals, Duke's response to Bulletin 88-08 was insufficient. You were requested to review your program against the bulletin recommendations and provide a revised response.

In a letter dated April 1, 1992, you responded to our request. Your response indicated that further fatigue analysis was performed for worst case temperature stratification in the susceptible high pressure injection lines for the three Oconee units. This analysis indicated that the piping could operate under these worst case conditions for the life of the plant without modifications. The NRC staff subsequently requested clarification as to whether the analysis bounded all transients, including any "not so common" transients, and the quantitative fatigue usage factor calculated by the analysis. In a telephone call on May 5, 1992, your staff confirmed that all transients, including the worst case transients, were bounded by the analysis, and that the calculated maximum cumulative usage factor was 0.81 for the 40 year life of any of the Oconee units. We find these responses acceptable.

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Mr. J. W. Hampton

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December 10, 1992

Therefore, the Oconee Nuclear Site, Units 1, 2, and 3 meet the intent of Action item 3, approach (1), without the need of modification. This satisfies the requirements of Bulletin 88-08 and no further action is required. Industry initiatives are currently in progress in this area. If these initiatives result in additional measures necessary to address thermal stratification issues, it will be addressed by a separate action. This completes our activity on TAC numbers M69659, M69660 and M69661.

Sincerely,

/s/

Leonard A. Wiens, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects-I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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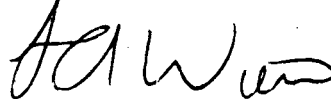
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Mr. J. W. Hampton

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Sincerely,



Leonard A. Wiens, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects-I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Oconee Nuclear Station

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