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 FACIL:50-269 Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 1, Duke Power Co.
 50-270 Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 2, Duke Power Co.
 50-287 Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 3, Duke Power Co.

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 RECIP.NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 Records Management Branch (Document Control Desk)

SUBJECT: Submits clarification of corrective actions stated in LER
 50-269/99-01 & to also form supplemental response to first
 example of Violation in insp repts 50-269/98-15,50-270/98-15
 & 50-287/98-15.

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April 26, 1999

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Oconee Nuclear Site
Docket Nos. 50-269, -270, -287
Inspection Report 50-269, -270, -287/98-15
Reply to Notice of Violation

Gentlemen:

By letter dated December 23, 1998, the NRC issued a Notice of Violation as described in Inspection Report No. 50-269/98-15, 50-270/98-15, and 50-287/98-15. A Duke Energy Corporation (Duke) response to the violation was provided in a letter dated January 22, 1999. In that letter, Duke stated that a supplemental reply would be provided to the first example of Violation 98-15-01 following a meeting with the NRC staff on February 8, 1999. The example involved the failure to update the Updated Final Safety Evaluation Report (UFSAR) to reflect an approved exception to the single failure design criteria for the emergency feedwater system following certain secondary pipe break scenarios. These scenarios were described in a 1973 high energy line break submittal to the NRC.

In a subsequent letter dated February 24, 1999, the NRC staff provided their position that the EFW system licensing basis requires the system to withstand a single failure and acknowledged the existence of certain approved exceptions. Duke subsequently submitted Licensee Event Report (LER) 50-269/1999-01, dated March 29, 1999, which included a detailed description of the overall issues regarding single failure criteria and specified appropriate corrective actions.

The purpose of this letter is to clarify that the corrective actions stated in the above LER also form the supplemental response to the first example of Violation 98-15-01. Specifically, as part of an overall program to improve the quality and accuracy of the UFSAR, Duke is performing a review

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April 26, 1999

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of the current UFSAR to identify statements related to the EFW system that are not supported by design documents. Such statements will be reviewed and action taken to provide reasonable assurance that the design basis of the EFW system is accurately reflected in the UFSAR. Corrective actions will be implemented to clarify the EFW licensing basis and assure the plant conforms to the clarified licensing basis. These options may include implementation of plant modifications to resolve the conflict with the Staff's position or submission of requests to revise the licensing basis, including the UFSAR, so that specific single failure modes would be approved exceptions.

Please address any questions to Larry E. Nicholson at 864-885-4268.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W R McCollum" followed by a stylized flourish or initials.

W. R. McCollum, Jr.
Site Vice President
Oconee Nuclear Site

NRC Document Control Desk

April 26, 1999

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