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 Region 2, Atlanta, Office of the Director

DOCKET #
05000269

SUBJECT: LER 80-039/03L: on 811220, smoke detector covering load ctrs
 1x6 & 2x6 alarmed. Caused by dusty ambient conditions where
 detector is located. Detector replaced & string returned to
 svc. Twice wkly preventive maint program implemented.

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NOTES: M Cunningham: all amends to FSAR & changes to Tech Specs. 05000269
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DUKE POWER COMPANY
OCONEE UNIT 1

Report Number: RO-269/80-39

Report Date: January 19, 1981

Occurrence Date: December 20, 1980

Facility: Oconee Unit 1, Seneca, South Carolina

Identification of Occurrence: Fire Detector String Removed From Service

Conditions Prior to Occurrence: 100% FP

Description of Occurrence: At 2216 hours on December 20, 1980, the smoke detector covering load centers 1x6 and 2x6 went into alarm. A subsequent investigation revealed no fire. The string was removed from service for repair. This constitutes operation in a degraded mode per Technical Specification 3.17.1 and is thus reportable pursuant to Technical Specification 6.6.2.1.b(2).

Apparent Cause of Occurrence: There has been a recurring problem with fire detectors, Honeywell Detectors in particular, giving false and nuisance alarms. This detector had failed completely. It is apparent that this failure was due to the dusty ambient conditions in which the detector is located.

Analysis of Occurrence: The detector string was out of service for approximately 10 hours. During this period of inoperability, an hourly fire watch for the affected area was maintained as required by Technical Specification 3.17.1. Thus this incident was of no significance with respect to safe operation, and the health and safety of the public were not affected.

Corrective Action: The detector was replaced and the string returned to service. A preventive maintenance program has been implemented on detectors located in dusty areas which checks and cleans them twice a week.

