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		Charlotte, North Carolina Mr. William O. Parker, Jr.		DATE RECEIVED 9/20/76	
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DUKE POWER COMPANY

POWER BUILDING

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

Telephone: Area 704
373-4083

WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT
STEAM PRODUCTION

September 14, 1976

Mr. Benard C. Rusche
Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Mr. A. Schwencer, Chief

Operating Reactors Branch #1

Re: Oconee Nuclear Station

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

Dear Mr. Rusche:

Your letter of June 8, 1976 requested that a schedule be submitted concerning our response to questions relative to the Oconee Nuclear Station reactor vessel support system. Subsequently, in our August. 13, 1976 letter, it was stated that a users group of utilities that have Babcock and Wilcox 177 FA Nuclear Steam Supply Systems had been formed to develop plans and schedules for resolution of this concern. Duke Power Company, in conjunction with this users group and several consultants, has reviewed the probability study which was developed by the Combustion Engineering users group and presented to the NRC staff. Based on this study, and other information currently available, we believe the probability of the occurrence of the particular incident of concern is acceptably remote and no further analysis is necessary. In order to evaluate and quantify this probability, we are having a study performed of the probability of a failure of the reactor coolant system in the annular region between the reactor vessel and the cavity shield wall.

We expect this study to be completed by mid December, 1976, and will at that time discuss the results with your staff.

truly yours,

William O. Parker, Jr.

MST:vr