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SUBJECT:
INFORMING OF ANTICIPATED JOINT BABCOCK & WILCOX AND APPLICANT'S FUEL
UTILIZATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT WHICH AFFECTS SUBJECT FACILITY.

PLANT NAME: OCONEE - UNIT 1

REVIEWER INITIAL: XJM
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NOTES:

1. M. CUNNINGHAM - ALL AMENDMENTS TO FSAR AND CHANGES TO TECH SPECS

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DUKE POWER COMPANY REGULATORY DOCKET FILE COPY
POWER BUILDING

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

WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT
STEAM PRODUCTION

January 13, 1978

TELEPHONE: AREA 704
373-4083

Mr. Edson G. Case, Acting Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Mr. A. Schwencer, Chief
Operating Reactor Branch #1

Reference: Oconee Nuclear Station
Docket No. 50-269



Dear Mr. Case:

This letter is to inform you of an anticipated joint Babcock & Wilcox and Duke Power Company fuel utilization improvement project which affects Oconee Nuclear Station. The objective of this project is to achieve short term benefits by qualifying the current Babcock & Wilcox designed Mark B fuel assembly for extended burnups.

Technical work for this program will be divided into two tasks. The first will involve the identification of four or five fuel assemblies to be burned for a fourth cycle and an extended burnup of 38,000 to 40,000 MWD/MTU. These fuel assemblies will be chosen from those assemblies currently undergoing a third cycle of burnup in Oconee Unit 1. Analysis work will be performed to qualify these fuel assemblies for extended burnup. After these fuel assemblies are discharged from their fourth cycle of burn, non-destructive and destructive testing will be conducted to provide the base data for Task 2 development work. The objective of this task is to establish reliable operating limits of the current Babcock & Wilcox Mark B Fuel Assemblies.

Task 1 is scheduled to be completed concurrent with the licensing of Oconee 1 Cycle 5. In this regard, additional effort may be required in order to assure timely licensing of this reload. To support this effort, it is proposed that a joint NRC/Duke/B&W meeting be held, at a mutually agreeable time, to discuss this project and answer any technical or licensing questions.

Very truly yours,

William O. Parker, Jr.
William O. Parker, Jr.

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Docket Nos. 50-269/270/287

Duke Power Company
ATTN: Mr. W. O. Parker, Jr.
Vice President,
Steam Production
422 South Church Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28242

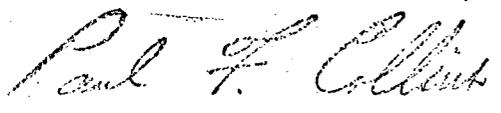
Gentlemen:

We have reviewed the proposed changes to the Oconee Nuclear Station operator requalification program submitted on August 1, 1977. Specifically, the primary changes are as follows:

- 1. Selected operating procedures will be reviewed on shift by licensed personnel according to a formal schedule.
- 2. Licensed personnel performance evaluations performed by Shift Supervisors and reviewed by the Operating Superintendent will be conducted on an annual, rather than semi-annual basis. These evaluations will now be retained in the individual's personnel file.

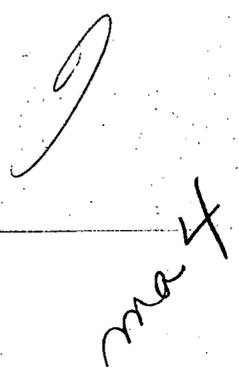
We have determined that these changes are acceptable provided that on shift reviews continue to include all Emergency Procedures.

Sincerely,



Paul F. Collins, Chief
Operator Licensing Branch
Division of Project Management

cc: See page 2



cc: Mr. William L. Porter
Duke Power Company
P. O. Box 2178
422 South Church Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28242

Mr. Troy E. Conner
Conner & Knotts
1747 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

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