

50-269

NRC DISTRIBUTION FOR PART 50 DOCKET MATERIAL

FILE NUMBER

INCIDENT REPORT

TO: C. Moseley

FROM: Duke Power Co.  
Charlotte, N.C.  
W.O. Parker, Jr.

DATE OF DOCUMENT

4-21-76

DATE RECEIVED

4-23-76

LETTER

NOTORIZED

PROP

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NUMBER OF COPIES RECEIVED

1

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UNCLASSIFIED

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DESCRIPTION

Ltr. trans the following.....

ENCLOSURE

Reportable Occurrence # 76-4 on 4-12-76,  
Concerning liquid waste activity released due to  
procedural deficiency.....

( 1 Carbon Cy. Received)

**DO NOT REMOVE**

PLANT NAME: Oconee # 1

NOTE: IF PERSONNEL EXPOSURE IS INVOLVED  
SEND DIRECTLY TO KREGER/J. COLLINS

SAFETY

FOR ACTION/INFORMATION

ENVIRO

SAB 4-28-76

BRANCH CHIEF:	Purple		
W/3 CYS FOR ACTION			
LIC. ASST:	Sheppard		
W/ CYS			
ACRS 16 CYS <del>XXXXXXXX</del> SENT TO LA			

INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION

<u>REG FILE</u>			
NRC PDR			
I & E (2)			
MIPC (3)			
SCHROEDER/IPPOLITO			
HOUSTON			
NOVAK/CHECK			
GRIMES/SCHWENCER			
CASE			
F. WILLIAMS			
HANAUER			
TEDESCO/MACCARY			
EISENHUT			
BAER			
SHAO			
VOLLMER/BUNCH			
KREGER/J. COLLINS			

EXTERNAL DISTRIBUTION

CONTROL NUMBER

LPDR: Walthalla, S.C.			
TIC			
NSIC			

4044

DUKE POWER COMPANY

POWER BUILDING

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

WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.  
VICE PRESIDENT  
STEAM PRODUCTION

TELEPHONE: AREA 704  
373-4083

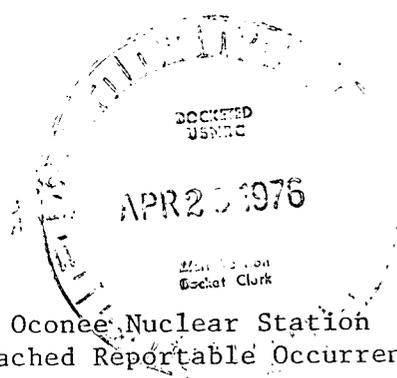
Regulatory Docket *etc*



April 21, 1976

Mr. Norman C. Moseley, Director  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Suite 818  
230 Peachtree Street, Northwest  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Re: Oconee Unit 1  
Docket No. 50-269



Dear Mr. Moseley:

Pursuant to Sections 6.2 and 6.6.2 of the Oconee Nuclear Station  
Technical Specifications, please find attached Reportable Occurrence  
Report RO-269/76-4.

Very truly yours,

*W.O. Parker, Jr.*

William O. Parker, Jr.

*by [Signature]*

EDB:mmb

Attachment

CC Director, Office of Management Information  
and Program Control

DUKE POWER COMPANY  
OCONEE UNIT -1

Report No.: RO-269/76-4

Report Date: April 21, 1976

Occurrence Date: April 12, 1976

Facility: Oconee Unit 1, Seneca, South Carolina

Identification of Occurrence: Release of activity above Technical Specification limits due to procedural deficiency

Conditions Prior to Occurrence: Not applicable

Description of Occurrence:

On April 12, 1976, it was determined that due to a procedural deficiency, liquid waste activity had been released from Oconee Nuclear Station with resulting instantaneous concentrations above the average annual limitations of 10 CFR 20, Appendix B, Table II. This limitation on release rate is specified by Oconee Nuclear Station Technical Specification 3.9.3. Releases had been made which, after dilution in the Keowee tailrace, resulted in instantaneous radionuclide concentrations of up to  $1.5 \times 10^{-5}$   $\mu\text{Ci/ml}$ . This value is greater than the 10 CFR 20, Appendix B, Table II limit of  $1 \times 10^{-7}$   $\mu\text{Ci/ml}$  for average annual concentrations for the most restrictive case in which the exact relative concentrations of radionuclides in a liquid mixture are not known, but it is known that neither Ra 221 nor Ra 228 is present.

Designation of Apparent Cause of Occurrence:

This occurrence resulted from an incorrect procedure utilized to calculate release limits for radioactive nuclides released from the station in liquid effluents. By the procedure utilized, a composite average MPC (Maximum Permissible Concentration) for liquid releases was calculated on a weighted fraction basis by the following formula:

$$\text{MPC}_{\text{avg}} = \frac{C_1}{C_T} \text{MPC}_1 + \frac{C_2}{C_T} \text{MPC}_2 + \dots + \frac{C_n}{C_T} \text{MPC}_n$$

where:  $C_1, C_2, \text{ etc.}$  = concentration in  $\mu\text{Ci/ml}$  of each of the components of the mixture.

$C_T$  = total concentration of all the components of the mixture.

$\text{MPC}_1, \text{MPC}_2, \text{ etc.}$  = 10 CFR 20 MPC of each of the components of the mixture.

Using data from sample releases, a value of  $1.5 \times 10^{-5}$   $\mu\text{Ci/ml}$  was calculated for  $\text{MPC}_{\text{avg}}$  and designated as an instantaneous limit for the resulting tailrace concentration following the release of any mixture of radionuclides in liquid form. Provisions were additionally made to recalculate this limit on a quarterly basis, or if the relative concentrations of radionuclides in liquid releases should change.

As can be seen, the calculated value of  $\text{MPC}_{\text{avg}}$  is primarily dependent on the relative concentrations of the least restrictive isotopes in a mixture (i.e., those isotopes that can be released at the highest MPC values). The most restrictive isotopes, those with MPC limits several orders of magnitude lower, have little effect on the calculated average MPC value. Similarly, excessive concentrations of these isotopes can be present in a mixture, while the total resulting radioactive concentration of the mixture is below the calculated  $\text{MPC}_{\text{avg}}$  limit. Therefore, this procedure for calculating an average MPC limit is incorrect because it allows releases to be made in which certain isotopes are present in concentrations above their prescribed MPC limits. As stated in 10 CFR 20, Appendix B notes, the following criteria must be satisfied for liquid releases when more than one radioactive isotope are present:

$$\frac{C_1}{\text{MPC}_1} + \frac{C_2}{\text{MPC}_2} + \dots + \frac{C_n}{\text{MPC}_n} \leq 1$$

This criteria limits the resulting average annual concentrations of any radionuclide released as a liquid effluent to less than its MPC value as listed in Table II, Column 2 of 10 CFR 20, Appendix B.

#### Analysis of Occurrence:

As a result of this occurrence, liquid releases have been made in which the 10 CFR 20, Appendix B most restrictive case limit of  $10^{-7}$   $\mu\text{Ci/ml}$  has been exceeded on an instantaneous basis. Otherwise, no annual or quarterly average objective limits as stated in Technical Specification 3.9 have been exceeded. It is concluded, therefore, that the health and safety of the public has not been affected by this occurrence.

#### Corrective Action:

The procedure for the release of liquid waste from Oconee has been changed and implemented to comply with the correct criteria as stated in 10 CFR 20, Appendix B.

DUKE POWER COMPANY

POWER BUILDING

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

WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.  
VICE PRESIDENT  
STEAM PRODUCTION

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Technical Specifications, please find attached Reportable Occurrence  
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*W.O. Parker, Jr.*  
William O. Parker, Jr.

EDB:mmb

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and Program Control

DUKE POWER COMPANY  
OCONEE UNIT 1

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Report Date: April 21, 1976

Occurrence Date: April 12, 1976

Facility: Oconee Unit 1, Seneca, South Carolina

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Conditions Prior to Occurrence: Not applicable

Description of Occurrence:

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