

DUKE POWER COMPANY

POWER BUILDING

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

PP

WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT
STEAM PRODUCTION

September 18, 1978

TELEPHONE: AREA 704
373-4083

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Mr. R. Reid, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #4

Reference: Oconee Nuclear Station
Docket No. 50-269, -270, -287

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 10CFR 50, §50.90, please find attached proposed changes to the Oconee Nuclear Station Technical Specifications. These changes are required to support the operation of Oconee Unit 2 at full rated power during Cycle 4. This proposal consist of the following changes. The Core Protection Safety Limits and Protective System Maximum Allowable Setpoints contained in Specifications 2.1 and 2.3 respectively, have been revised. The bases of Specification 2.1 has been revised to reflect the proposed removal of orifice rod assemblies and the subsequent reduction of FAH to 1.71. Specification 3.2 has been revised to reflect the boron volume requirements upon startup of Unit 2 for Cycle 4. The bases and Table 3.5-1 of Specification 3.5 have been revised to reflect the new steady state tilt limit of 5%. The proposed Technical Specifications changes also include a change in the xenon reactivity specification (Specification 3.5.2.6) applicable to all three Oconee units. This change in the xenon reactivity specification is based on the consideration of the effect of the transient xenon on power peaking calculated for Oconee 1 Cycle 5, Oconee 2 Cycle 4, and Oconee 3 Cycle 4 and based on confirmation that the proposed limiting condition for xenon reactivity conservatively ensures acceptable power peaks during xenon transients. The applicable data for Oconee 1 Cycle 5 were provided to the NRC in my letter of August 28, 1978. The data for Oconee 2 and 3 are similar and consistent with the Oconee 1 data.

Also attached is Babcock and Wilcox Report BAW-1491, "Oconee Unit 2, Cycle 4 Reload Report." This report includes a summary of Cycle 4 operating parameters and contains the safety analyses supporting the operation of Oconee 2, Cycle 4 core at rated power in accordance with the Technical Specifications provided.

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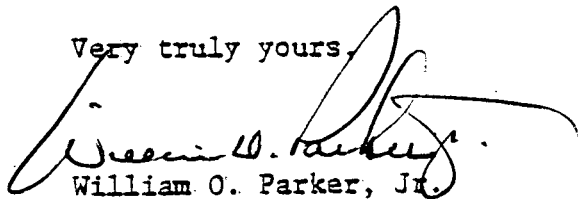
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On June 8, 1978, Duke Power Company filed a request for exemption from 10CFR50, §50.46 for Oconee Unit 3 based on a staff request. It continues to be our position that the Oconee ECCS is currently acceptable and wholly in conformance with 10CFR50, §50.46. Improvements to the ECCS prior to the startup of Unit 2 following the forthcoming refueling are neither necessary nor feasible. However, in response to a staff requirement and pursuant to 10CFR50, §50.12, it is hereby requested that an exemption be granted to the provision of 10CFR 50, §50.46 and that Oconee Unit 2 be licensed to operate at full rated core thermal power (2568 MW_t).

This proposed revision to the Oconee Nuclear Station Technical Specifications is considered to involve a single safety issue with no significant hazards involved and two duplicate amendments for the identical Oconee units. Accordingly, a check in the amount of \$4,800 is attached, consisting of the licensing fees for one Class III amendment and two Class I amendments. Three signed originals and thirty-seven copies are provided in this submittal.

Very truly yours,

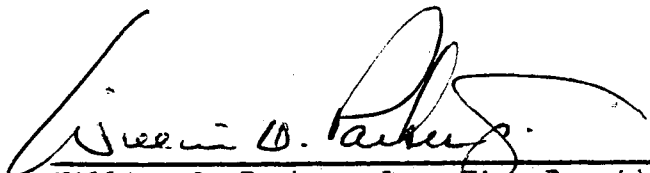


William O. Parker, Jr.

RLG:scs
Attachments (40)

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WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR., being duly sworn, states that he is Vice President of Duke Power Company; that he is authorized on the part of said Company to sign and file with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission this request; and that all statements and matters set forth therein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge.



William O. Parker, Jr., Vice President

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th day of September, 1978.



Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

February 15, 1982