

NRC DISTRIBUTION FOR PART 50 DOCKET MATERIAL

TO: MR. B. C. RUSCHE

FROM: DUKE POWER COMPANY  
CHARLOTTE, NC  
  
W O PARKER, JR

DATE OF DOCUMENT  
5-6-76

DATE RECEIVED  
5-10-76

LETTER  
 NOTORIZED  
 ORIGINAL  
 UNCLASSIFIED  
 COPY

PROOP

INPUT FORM

NUMBER OF COPIES RECEIVED  
1 SIGNED

DESCRIPTION

LTR REF OUR 12-18-75 LTR..... AND THEIR LTR 2-19-76..... FURNISHING RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION AS TO THE SAFETY-RELATED HYDRAULIC SHOCK SUPPRESSOR AT OCONEE AS TO THE TYPE OF MATERIAL THAT IS BEING USED IN EACH SUPPRESSOR.....

PLANT NAME: OCONEE 1-2-3

ENCLOSURE

DO NOT REMOVE

ACKNOWLEDGED

SAFETY		FOR ACTION/INFORMATION		ENVIRO	
ASSIGNED AD :		ASSIGNED AD :		ASSIGNED AD :	5-13-76 RB
BRANCH CHIEF :	PURPLE	BRANCH CHIEF :		BRANCH CHIEF :	
PROJECT MANAGER:		PROJECT MANAGER :		PROJECT MANAGER :	
LIC. ASST. :	SHEPPARD	LIC. ASST. :		LIC. ASST. :	

INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REG FILE	SYSTEMS SAFETY	PLANT SYSTEMS	ENVIRO TECH
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NRC PDR	HEINEMAN	TEDESCO	ERNST
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I & E (2)	SCHROEDER	BENAROYA	BALLARD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> O&D		LAINAS	SPANGLER
GOSSICK & STAFF	ENGINEERING	IPPOLITO	
MIPC	MACCARY		SITE TECH
CASE	KNIGHT	OPERATING REACTORS	GAMMILL
HANAUER	SINWEIL	STELLO	STEPP
HARLESS	PAWLICKI		HULMAN
		OPERATING TECH	
PROJECT MANAGEMENT	REACTOR SAFETY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EISENHUT	SITE ANALYSIS
BOYD	ROSS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHAO	VOLIMER
P. COLLINS	NOVAK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BAER	BUNCH
HOUSTON	ROSZTOCZY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCHWENCER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> J. COLLINS
PETERSON	CHECK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GRINES	KREGER
MELTZ			
HELTENES	AT & I		
SKOVHOLT	SALTZMAN	SITE SAFETY & ENVIRO	
	RUTBERG	ANALYSIS	
		DENTON & MULLER	

EXTERNAL DISTRIBUTION			CONTROL NUMBER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LDR: WALKALLA, SC	NATL LAB	BROOKHAVEN NATL LAB	4670
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TIC	REG. V-TE	ULRIKSON (ORNL)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NSIC	IA PDR		
ASLB	CONSULTANTS		
ACCS 16			

Regulatory Docket File

DUKE POWER COMPANY

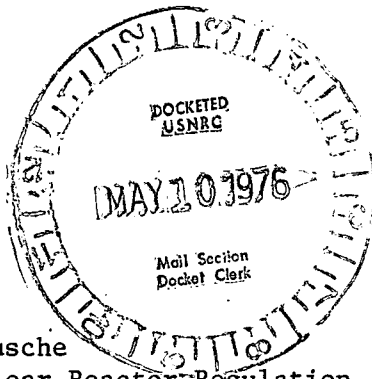
POWER BUILDING

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

WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.  
VICE PRESIDENT  
STEAM PRODUCTION

TELEPHONE: AREA 704  
373-4083

May 6, 1976



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

Re: Oconee Nuclear Station  
Docket Nos. 50-269, -270, -287

Dear Mr. Rusche:

Your letter dated December 18, 1975 requested that model Technical Specifications relating to hydraulic shock suppressors be adopted for use at Oconee Nuclear Station. One of the provisions of the model specifications required all hydraulic suppressors whose seal materials are other than ethylene propylene or are other material that has not been demonstrated to be compatible with the operating environment to be visually inspected for operability every 31 days. The compatibility of seal materials refers to that seal material which has not been demonstrated by operating experience, lab tests or analysis to be compatible with the operating environment.

In our response dated February 19, 1976, it was stated that the provision for monthly testing of suppressors was being deleted since it was considered that all Oconee suppressors were compatible with the operating environment on the basis of operating experience. Subsequent suppressor inspections on all three Oconee units has revealed eight suppressors on Oconee 1 and one suppressor on Oconee 3 whose cylinder end cap "O" ring seals have become embrittled, resulting in the suppressors becoming inoperable.

An investigation has been performed to determine the material in each safety-related hydraulic shock suppressor at Oconee. This investigation has revealed that the majority of this material is of a polyurethane type; however, the specific composition of the polyurethane in each suppressor cannot be determined. Only the end cap "O" ring material in a specific type of suppressor has been observed to become embrittled and result in a suppressor becoming inoperable. There are 53, 51, and 27 of this type suppressor in Oconee 1, 2, and 3 respectively. No embrittlement of sealing material in the other suppressor cylinders or snubber valves has been experienced.

Mr. Benard C. Rusche

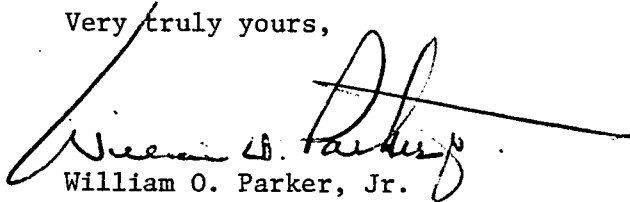
Page 2

May 6, 1976

It is currently planned to replace all material in all safety-related hydraulic shock suppressors at the Oconee Nuclear Station. However, availability of materials will prohibit the accomplishment of this goal until each of the Oconee unit's next refueling shutdown. In the interim, the suppressor cylinder seal material will be replaced for those cylinders which have been identified as possibly defective on Oconee 1 and 2 (both currently in an outage) prior to startup. For Oconee 3, the suppressors were last inspected on March 26, 1976. A shutdown will occur no later than June 20, 1976 during which the seal material on those cylinders which have been identified as possibly defective will be replaced. Due to the failure of only one suppressor on Oconee 3 and the much shorter service life experienced by these suppressors compared with Oconee 1, this course of action is considered acceptable.

Since only one type of suppressor has been identified as not being compatible with the operating environment, and this problem will be rectified in the near future, suppressor surveillance will continue as outlined in our February 19, 1976 letter.

Very truly yours,



William O. Parker, Jr.

MST:mmb

CC Mr. Norman C. Moseley