

30-287

NRC DISTRIBUTION FOR PART 50 DOCKET MATERIAL

FILE NUMBER

TO: Mr Rusche		FROM: Duke Pwr Co Charlotte, NC W O Parker		DATE OF DOCUMENT 8-6-76
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DESCRIPTION

Ltr re their 3-12, 4-12, & 4-15 ltrs.....
requesting an extension of the date
of operation under cycle 3.....

PLANT NAME: Oconee #3

ENCLOSURE

SAFETY	FOR ACTION/INFORMATION	ENVIRO	8-9-76	ehf
ASSIGNED AD:		ASSIGNED AD:		
BRANCH CHIEF:	Schwenger	BRANCH CHIEF:		
PROJECT MANAGER:	Zech	PROJECT MANAGER:		
LIC. ASST.:	Sheppard	LIC. ASST.:		

INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION			
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NRC PDR	HEINEMAN	TEDESCO	ENVIRO ANALYSIS
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GOSSICK & STAFF	ENGINEERING	IPPOLITO	ENVIRO TECH.
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HOUSTON	ROSETOCZY	BAER	HULMAN
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HELTEMES	AT & I		BUNCH
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EXTERNAL DISTRIBUTION			CONTROL NUMBER
ALPDR: Walthalla, SC	FAT LAB:	BROGHAVEN FAT LAB	8043
TIC:	REG. VIE	BERIKSON (ORNL)	
NSIC:	IA PDR		
ASIB:	CONSULTANTS		
ACRS 16 CYS	T O LA Sheppard		

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

August 6, 1976

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

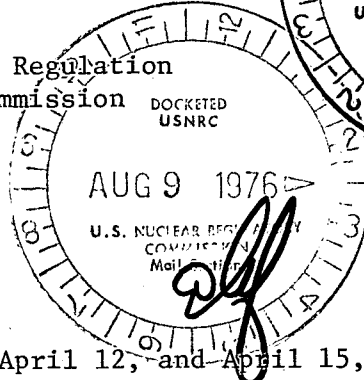
Re: Oconee Unit 3
Docket No. 50-287

Dear Mr. Rusche:

My letters dated March 12, April 12, and April 15, 1976 described inspections which had been conducted of the Oconee Unit 3 reactor vessel material surveillance specimen holder tubes. Repairs which have been made to these tubes were described and analyses were performed to support the acceptability of these tubes for continued operation for the duration of Cycle 1. Technical Specification revisions designed to minimize the possibility of further degradation of the tubes were requested and approved by NRC/ONRR on April 16, 1976.

One of the restrictions to operation issued in the Technical Specification revision was the provision that operation of Oconee 3, Cycle 1 be permitted only until September 1, 1976. This period of time would have permitted the desired burnup of the Cycle 1 core, assuming a 100 percent capacity factor, and minimized the stress the holder tubes would be subjected to by minimizing reactor coolant pump operation. It is now requested that this restriction be revised to permit operation of Oconee 3, Cycle 1 to September 18, 1976. This extension of time is justifiable since the 100 percent capacity factor has not been realized due to several maintenance outages. These outages have resulted in the unit being offline for 20 days and in a condition where reactor coolant pumps have not been in operation for 12 days.

This time will permit fuller utilization of the energy capacity of the Cycle 1 core and will also enhance the equipment and parts availability for the impending refueling outage. In addition, a September 18, 1976 shutdown date will permit greater flexibility for system load planning. The Cycle 1 core burnup achieved by this extension will be consistent with the assumptions specified in our July 21, 1976 submittal for Oconee 3, Cycle 2 Technical Specifications.



100-4083

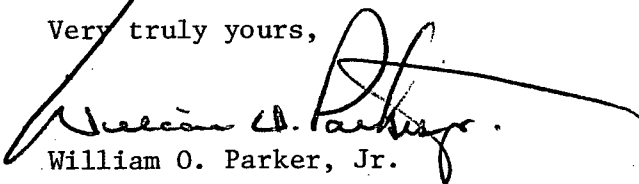
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Mr. Benard C. Rusche
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Since April 16, 1976, the provisions of Oconee Technical Specification 3.17 have been observed and no abnormal loose parts monitoring indications or reactor coolant system chemistry analyses have been observed. It is our conclusion that this extension of the operation of Oconee 3, Cycle 1 will not adversely affect the health and safety of the public.

It is requested that this change be approved by August 20, 1976 in order that the schedule for activities associated with the refueling outage may be finalized.

Very truly yours,


William O. Parker, Jr.

MST:vr