

MARCH 01 1979

Docket No. 50-287

Mr. William O. Parker, Jr.
Vice President - Steam Production
Duke Power Company
P. O. Box 2178
Charlotte, North Carolina 28242

Dear Mr. Parker:

RE: OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION UNIT NO. 3

Currently you are administratively applying revised reactor coolant pressure-temperature limits at your facility which reflect the possible use of an atypical weld wire in the reactor vessel welds. Babcock & Wilcox has continued their investigation of this possible problem and all evidence developed to date strengthens our belief that the likelihood that atypical weld wire was actually used in reactor vessels is very low. Further information, including effects of radiation on the atypical material is scheduled to be submitted within the next several months.

Nevertheless, we believe that pending final resolution of this matter, expected by June 1979, continued administrative application of the revised limits is appropriate.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Robert W. Reid, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #4
Division of Operating Reactors

TTT
OCP

cc: See next page

7904030412

MBF

OFFICE	ORB#4:DOR	ORB#4:DOR	C-ORB#4:DOR			
SURNAME	MFairtile/co	CNElson	RR Reid			
DATE	3/1/79	3/1/79	3/1/79			



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

March 1, 1979

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Reid", is written over the typed name.

Robert W. Reid, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #4
Division of Operating Reactors

cc: See next page

Duke Power Company

cc:

Mr. William L. Porter
Duke Power Company
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422 South Church Street
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