

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

October 11, 1994

Mr. M. S. Tuckman Senior Vice President Nuclear Generation Duke Power Company P. O. Box 1006 Charlotte, North Carolina 28201

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PDR

Dear Mr. Tuckman:

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR RELIEF 94-GO-001, 94-GO-002- OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1, 2 AND 3, MCGUIRE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2; AND CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2, (TAC NOS M89794, M89795, M89796, M89752, M89753, M89750 AND M89751)

By letter dated June 22, 1994, the Duke Power Company (DPC) submitted a Request for Relief from ASME Code Section XI. Request for Relief Serial Number 94-GO-OO1 requested approval to implement ASME Code Case N-498, Revision 1. This would permit the use of VT-2 visual examinations on Class 3 systems at nominal operating pressure in lieu of hydrostatic pressure tests. Request for Relief Serial Number 94-GO-002 requested approval to implement ASME Code Case N-522. This would permit the use of 10 CFR 50 Appendix J tests in lieu of interval hydrostatic pressure tests for designated piping and isolation valves. The Relief Requests were submitted in a combined generic application for the Oconee, McGuire, and Catawba Stations. Your letter of June 22, 1994, proposed to incorporate the two code cases into the three stations' Inservice Inspection Programs on an immediate basis with the first implementation to be at Oconee Unit 2 during the end of the cycle 14 outage in October 1994.

We have not completed our review of these Code cases and, accordingly, have not determined whether to include them in our periodic revision to Regulatory Guide 1.147. Due to NRC staff resource limitations and the prioritization of this matter, we also have not completed our review of the specific application of these Code cases to the Oconee, McGuire, and Catawba Stations. Accordingly, these Code cases are not, at this time, approved for use in the Inservice Inspection Programs for these stations. If a Code-required test for a specific component or system is determined to be impractical prior to resolution of your requests, a specific relief request with appropriate

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Mr. M. S. Tuckman

justification may be submitted for review. This letter is in response to inquiries from your staff and is intended to enable you to plan the outage for Oconee Unit 2 accordingly.

Sincerely, 1.

Herbert N. Berkow, Project Director Project Directorate II-3 Directorate for Reactor Projects I/II Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270, 50-287 50-369, 50-370, 50-413 and 50-414

cc w/o enclosure: See next page Mr. David L. Rehn Duke Power Company

cc:

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Sincerely, lic

Herbert N. Berkow, Project Director Project Directorate II-3 Directorate for Reactor Projects I/II Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc w/o enclosure: See next page

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