

Duke Power Company
P.O. Box 33198
Charlotte, N.C. 28242

HAL B. Tucker
Vice President
Nuclear Production
(704)373-4531



DUKE POWER

August 23, 1988

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: Oconee Nuclear Station
Docket Nos. 50-269, -270, -287
Second Ten Year Interval
Request for Relief No. 88-07

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to 10CFR 50, §50.55a, please find attached request for relief number 88-07 from the requirements of Section XI of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (with Addenda through Winter 1980). This request is being submitted due to the impracticality of pressure testing specific welds as required by the Code following repair. The attached requests concern the inservice inspection at Oconee Unit 3 being performed during the second ten year interval.

It is requested that this request for relief be reviewed and approved by NRC prior to Unit 3 Cycle 11 startup currently scheduled for September 18, 1988.

This request is considered to supplement the request made by my letter dated September 13, 1984. As such, no additional fees are required.

Very truly yours,

Hal B. Tucker

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Attachment

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xc: w/o diagrams

Dr. J. Nelson Grace
Regional Administrator
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory
Commission - Region II
101 Marietta St. NW
Suite 2900 - Atlanta, GA 30323

Ms. Helen Pastis
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Mr. Heyward Shealy, Chief
Bureau of Radiological Health
S.C. Department of Health and
Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbus, S.C. 29201

Mr. P.H. Skinner
NRC Resident Inspector
Oconee Nuclear Station

Duke Power Company
Oconee Nuclear Station
Second Ten Year Interval
Request for Relief No. 88-07

I. Component for which relief is requested:

- (a) Name and Number: Auxiliary Steam (AS) System welds for installing valve 3AS-39 (see attached flow diagram).
- (b) Function: 3AS-39 prevents backflow between the Main Steam and Auxiliary Steam Systems.
- (c) ISI Class/Duke Class: ISI Class C/Duke Class F
- (d) Valve Category: C

II. Reference Code requirement that has been determined to be impractical:

ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code Section XI, 1980 Edition (with Addenda through Winter 1980) paragraph IWA-4400(a), which states that after repairs by welding on the pressure retaining boundary, a system hydrostatic test shall be performed in accordance with IWA-5000.

III. Basis for requesting relief:

Hydrostatic testing would require filling of Auxiliary Steam System lines with water. Based on past experience the Auxiliary Steam header cannot be drained properly after being filled with water. In addition, the emergency feedwater pump turbine could potentially be damaged by the required hydrotest.

IV. Alternate examination:

Welds will be 100% radiographed and a VT-2 inspection will be performed at operating temperature and pressure. In addition, the welds will be hydrostatically tested during the second ten year interval inservice inspection hydro of the main steam lines.

V. Evaluation of acceptability of proposed alternate testing with respect to the level of quality and safety as well as public health and safety:

The specified method of hydrostatic testing verifies that there are not leaks at 1.25 times the design pressure. The alternate examination of a 100% radiograph of welds assures that no significant flaws are evident in the welds. The VT-2 inspection indicates that no leaks are detectable when the system is at operating temperature and pressure. The alternate stress level which is normally verified by the specified method of hydrostatic testing. As such, the proposed alternate examinations provide an acceptable level of quality and safety and will not endanger the health and safety of the public.

I. Implementation Schedule:

The 100% radiograph will be performed during the Unit 3 End of Cycle 11 refueling outage. The VT-2 inspection will be performed during startup from the Unit 3 End of Cycle 11 refueling outage. Hydrostatic testing will be performed during the second ten year interval inservice inspection hydro of the main steam lines.

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