

**DUKE POWER COMPANY**

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

Subject: Oconee Nuclear Station  
Docket Nos. 50-269, -270, -287  
Reactor Building Cooling Unit Maintenance/Testing

Gentlemen:

Be letter dated December 15, 1988, I provided an update regarding Reactor Building Cooling Unit (RBCU) performance. Within this update, I committed to an inspection of return bends on the waterside of Unit 3 RBCUs during the next refueling outage.

The RBCU coils have been thoroughly cleaned on the airside and tests now show heat transfer capacities commensurate with Units 1 and 2. This indicates that the fouling mechanism was airside buildup of boric acid rather than mud accumulation in the return bends. As such, inspection of the return bends has been deemed unnecessary and will not be performed.

Very truly yours,

*Hal B. Tucker*  
for  
Hal B. Tucker

PJN/31/td

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