

DUKE POWER COMPANY

POWER BUILDING

422 SOUTH CHURCH STREET, CHARLOTTE, N. C. 28202

WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT
STEAM PRODUCTION

April 21, 1978

TELEPHONE AREA 704
373-4083

Mr. Edson G. Case, Acting Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Mr. R. Reid, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #4

Reference: Oconee Nuclear Station
Docket Nos. 50-269, -270, -287

Dear Sir:

My letter of April 14, 1978 addressed an apparent error in the B&W small break ECCS analysis applicable to Oconee Nuclear Station and corrective actions which had been implemented to assure continued safe operation of the Oconee units. Subsequently, several communications have occurred involving Duke, B&W, and the staff with regard to the results of additional small break ECCS analyses. Specifically, B&W evaluations performed during the week of April 16, 1978 indicated results more severe than those addressed by my letter of April 14, 1978. This letter is to summarize our current understanding with regard to this matter and to provide certain pertinent information to the staff.

Based on our communications with the Oconee NSSS and fuel vendor, B&W, it is our understanding and position that Oconee can continue to be operated at full rated power (2568 MWe core power) safely and in full compliance with the provisions of 10CFR50.46. In order to assure this, however, certain prompt operator actions would be required following a postulated small break LOCA, assuming various worst case single failures. Specifically, the HPI pump B-C discharge header cross-over valves (HP-116 and HP-117) and the HPI injection line A engineered safeguards valve (HP-26) must begin opening within five minutes of actuation of the engineered safeguards system and must be fully open within an additional ten minutes. Procedures have been established to assure that this requirement is met. This, in turn, assures that adequate timely flow to the core is provided.

In addition to the amendment proposed by our letter of April 20, 1978, a facility operating license amendment will be submitted by May 1, 1978 to require the procedures necessary to implement the actions discussed

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