

REGULATORY INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

DOCKET NBR: 050-269 OCONEE-1  
 RECIPIENT: DENTON, H.R.  
 ORIGINATOR: PARKER, W.O.  
 COMPANY: DUKE PWR  
 SUBJECT:

DOC DATE: 781023  
 ACCESSION NBR: 7810270129  
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 LTR 1 ENCL 0  
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Provides info re effects of heat in a dry environ on an unexploded steam generator plug in response to question re SAR. Based test results. Concludes that possibility of detonation of unexploded plug in dry environ is negligible.

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LTR 40  
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NOV 1 1978

NOTES: M CUNNINGHAM-ALL AMDTS TO FSAR & CHANGES TO TECH SPECS.

*THAY  
 CJP*

DUKE POWER COMPANY

POWER BUILDING

422 SOUTH CHURCH STREET, CHARLOTTE, N. C. 28242

WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.  
VICE PRESIDENT  
STEAM PRODUCTION

October 23, 1978

TELEPHONE: AREA 704  
373-4083

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

REGULATORY DOCKET FILE COPY

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

Re: Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 1  
Docket Number 50-269

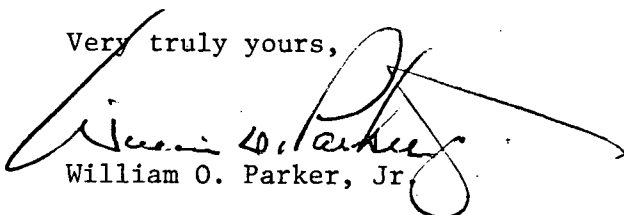
Dear Sir:

During the staff review of the safety analysis submitted in my letter of October 19, 1978, a question was raised which concerned the effect of heat in a dry environment on an unexploded steam generator plug. This letter confirms information provided by telephone on October 21, 1978 to the staff.

The safety analysis provided the results of testing of four plugs heated in air to temperatures above 700°F. These plugs were heated from approximately 70°F at a rate of approximately 60°F per hour with no evidence of detonation. At approximately 290°F, the plug decomposed to a gaseous state. It is thus concluded that the possibility of detonation of an unexploded plug in a dry environment is negligible. Furthermore, all tubes which had been plugged on the lower end were verified to have the plug installed in the lower tube sheet and clear of any obstructions in the tube prior to plugging at the upper tube sheet. Therefore, the possibility of an unexploded plug in a dry environment between the plugged ends of a tube is negligible.

It continues to be Duke Power Company's position that the startup and power operation of Oconee 1 with two unrecovered steam generator tube plugs, one of which may be undetonated, does not represent a significant safety hazard.

Very truly yours,

  
William O. Parker, Jr.

RLG:scs

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