

DUKE POWER COMPANY
POWER BUILDING
422 SOUTH CHURCH STREET, CHARLOTTE, N. C. 28242

Central File
50-269
-270
-287

WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT
STEAM PRODUCTION

January 20, 1977

TELEPHONE: AREA 704
373-4083

Mr. Norman C. Moseley, Director
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Suite 818
230 Peachtree Street, Northwest
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

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

Dear Mr. Moseley:

Pursuant to the requirements of Oconee Nuclear Station Technical Specification 3.10.1, this report is submitted describing a condition in which the rate of release of radioactive materials in gaseous wastes averaged over a calendar quarter would have exceeded twice the annual objective if the same release rate had been maintained over a one year period.

On December 22, 1976, the quantity of gaseous radioactive waste released from Oconee Nuclear Station during the fourth quarter reached 25,600 curies. If this same release rate were maintained over a year, Oconee Nuclear Station would have exceeded twice its annual objective of 51,000 curies of released radioactive gaseous waste.

This condition resulted from the necessity of purging the Oconee Unit 2 Reactor Building to allow personnel entry for steam generator tube repair. The purge added approximately 12,600 curies of released gaseous waste to the quarterly total. The activity in the Unit 2 Reactor Building has been considerably higher than normal. The major contributor of this activity has been leaks in reactor coolant valves from the pressurizer gas space to the Reactor Building atmosphere. These leaks have been repaired and this should alleviate this situation in the future.

Although a large quantity of gaseous waste was released during the fourth quarter, the amount of released radioactive gaseous waste during the calendar year did not exceed the station's annual objective of 51,000 curies. Also, restrictions were placed on other purging operations to assure that no limitations for gaseous release rates were exceeded. Therefore, it is concluded that the health and safety of the public were not adversely affected by this condition.

Very truly yours,

W. O. Parker, Jr.

William O. Parker, Jr. *By [Signature]*

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