



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 7, 1994

Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270
and 50-287

Mr. J. W. Hampton
Vice President, Oconee Site
Duke Power Company
P. O. Box 1439
Seneca, South Carolina 29679

Dear Mr. Hampton:

SUBJECT: OFFSITE POWER FROM THE 100KV TRANSMISSION SYSTEM
OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3
(TAC NOS. M86233, M86234, AND M86235)

By letter dated April 14, 1993, you provided a discussion, for NRC information, of the acceptability of using the 100kV transmission system from the Central Switchyard as an offsite source of electrical power to a cold shutdown unit during periods of testing and maintenance. Subsequently, you provided the NRC staff with the 10 CFR 50.59 evaluation and supporting calculations which evaluated the installation of degraded grid voltage relays in this system. In a letter dated June 14, 1993, the NRC expressed concerns with the proposed use of the Central Switchyard as an offsite power source.

You responded to these concerns in a letter dated August 31, 1993. The NRC staff reviewed your response and found that you have adequately addressed our concerns and we have no additional questions concerning your analysis performed under 10 CFR 50.59. The staff also found the use of the Central Switchyard as an additional offsite power source could reduce conditional core damage probability during a loss-of-offsite power event at Oconee. Although the new hardware (degraded voltage protection), which you have installed to support the use of the Central Switchyard, does not completely meet the guidance contained in various applicable staff documents, it does provide a positive measure of protection against inadequate voltage when the Central Switchyard is utilized.

It is the staff's position that the proposed use of the Central Switchyard as an offsite power source would require technical specifications meeting the guidelines contained in the NRC Generic Letter (GL) dated June 2, 1977. Proposed technical specifications covering the use of the Central Switchyard are being reviewed by NRC staff as part of the revision of the Oconee Electrical Technical Specifications. In order to allow interim use of the Central Switchyard while the electrical technical specification change is processed, you were requested to commit to administrative controls and testing equivalent to the technical specifications recommended in the GL. In letters dated November 30, 1993, and January 24, 1994, you provided a description of the controls and testing that would be performed. We have reviewed your

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Mr. J. W. Hampton

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submittals and find them acceptable. Therefore, we conclude that the use of the Central Switchyard as an offsite power source under the administrative controls described in your submittals, is acceptable for the interim period until appropriate technical specifications are approved to cover this use. The use of the Central Switchyard to satisfy existing Technical Specification Limiting Conditions of Operation requirements is not acceptable without prior approval of technical specification changes.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, contact me at (301) 504-1495.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Leonard A. Wiens, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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Duke Power Company

Oconee Nuclear Station

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