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SUBJECT: Responds to Item 1 of NRC Bulletin 88-08 re thermal stresses in piping connected to RCS for facility, Unit 3.

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DUKE POWER

December 15, 1989

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

Subject: Oconee Nuclear Station, Unit 3
Docket Nos. 50-269, -270, -287
Thermal Stresses in Piping Connected to
Reactor Cooling System (NRC Bulletin 88-08)

Gentlemen:

My letter of October 6, 1988 provided a response to Item 1 of the NRC Bulletin 88-08 concerning thermal stresses in piping connected to reactor cooling system (RCS). My response identified two portions of the high pressure injection (HPI) lines located between valves HP-152/HP-153 and the RCS which may be subject to the kind of thermal stresses described in Bulletin 88-08. Furthermore, I indicated that inspection of these pipings as required by Action Item 2 of the bulletin will be completed by the end of upcoming refueling outages for Oconee Unit 1, 2, and 3. The results of our inspections for Units 1 and 2 were provided by my letters of March 10, 1989 and July 7, 1989, respectively. The purpose of this letter is to transmit to you the results of our inspections during the Unit 3 EOC-11 refueling outage to complete our response to Item 2 of the bulletin.

Our review of portions of the HPI line between HP-152/HP-153 and the RCS identified seven piping welds for an augmented inspection. These welds, which are the only geometric discontinuities, and their heat-affected zones were determined to be the highest stress locations. Each identified weld on HPI system for Unit 3 received a full volumetric ultrasonic inspection of the weld and base material. The examination of all seven welds was completed during the Unit 3 EOC-11 refueling outage and no reportable conditions were found.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the statements set forth therein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hal B. Tucker".

Hal B. Tucker

MAH/51/td

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December 15, 1989

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NRC Resident Inspector
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