

## DUKE POWER COMPANY

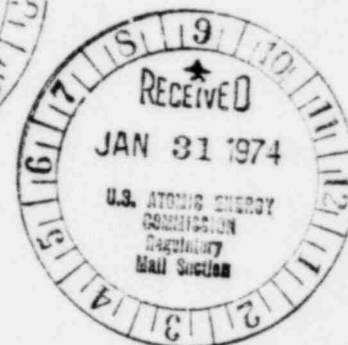
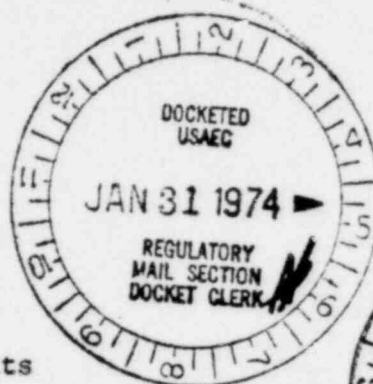
POWER BUILDING

422 SOUTH CHURCH STREET, CHARLOTTE, N. C. 28201

A. C. THIES  
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT  
PRODUCTION AND TRANSMISSION

P. O. Box 2178

January 25, 1974



Mr. Angelo Giambusso  
Deputy Director for Reactor Projects  
Directorate of Licensing  
Office of Regulation  
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20545

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

Dear Mr. Giambusso:

The Babcock & Wilcox Company has notified us of a change in the calculation of the specific heat curve for uranium dioxide fuel as utilized in some of their transient computer codes. This change will be reflected in a higher value of the specific heat for elevated fuel temperatures.

The studies necessary to quantify the impact of this change on the safety analyses reported in the Final Safety Analysis Report have been initiated. The general effect of the change will be in the level of stored energy in the fuel as well as in the response time of some transients. Based on B&W's present evaluation, this revision will not affect the steady-state analysis because the basic data from which the curve is derived are valid; it is these basic data that are used for the steady-state calculations. The particular effect on kinetic behavior can be determined only by an evaluation of the safety analyses. To indicate the magnitude of this revision, preliminary calculations on Oconee 2 show that a reduction in the maximum linear heat rate of less than 1.0 kw/ft should offset the effects of this revision in specific heat.

My letter of December 31, 1973 requested certain changes to the Units 1 and 2 Technical Specifications. In view of the above, it appears that Figures 3.5.2-1B1, 3.5.2-1B2, 3.5.2-2B, 3.5.2-3B, and 3.5.2-4 may need to be revised. It is expected that we can provide you with revised figures and additional justification in approximately two weeks.

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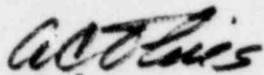
Mr. Angelo Giambusso

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We will keep you advised on the status of B&W's continuing investigation and understand that B&W will be providing you additional information on a generic basis.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "A. C. Thies".

A. C. Thies

ACT:vr