

STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND (R-SC) AT PUBLIC HEARING, AUGUST 19, 1967, HELD BY THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD OF THE UNITED STATES ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION TO CONSIDER THE APPLICATION BY DUKE POWER COMPANY FOR A CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FOR OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

As the Senior Senator representing the State of South Carolina, I am making this statement in support of the application of Duke Power Company to construct its proposed three-unit Oconee Nuclear Station in Oconee County, South Carolina.

While I have not examined in detail the technical design of the Oconee Plant, I have followed with great interest the development of the Nuclear Power industry. Increasingly, public utilities are turning to the atom as a source of electric power generation. I believe that experience has shown that they are making their decisions on the basis of sound economic and engineering judgments. The safety record of the nuclear power industry has been outstanding.

Duke Power Company is eminently qualified to build the Oconee Plant. It has participated in the successful operation of the Parr Nuclear Plant in our State, and it has built and operated conventional electric generating plants for a number of years. Its plants are among the most efficient in the nation. I am confident that Duke Power's application for a construction permit is based upon sound design principles and that every effort has been made to assure safe operation. I am equally confident that the review of the application by the regulatory staff of the Atomic Energy Commission and by the

Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards has been thorough. It is my hope that the Atomic Energy Commission will act promptly on this application in view of the tremendous benefit which will accrue to this section of South Carolina through the resulting economic growth. The availability of additional power will attract new industries, and the recreational facilities which will result from this development will bring enjoyment and pleasure to thousands of people.

One of the more tangible results will be millions of dollars in federal, state, and local taxes which will enable the respective governments to provide the services expected and needed by our people. It is, therefore, without hesitation, that I urge your favorable consideration of this application.



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

In the Matter of)
DUKE POWER COMPANY)
(Oconee Nuclear Station,)
Units 1, 2 and 3)

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

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of a letter from the Secretary (signed by F. T. Hobbs) to Senator Strom Thurmond dated August 15, 1967 have been served on the following by deposit in the United States Mail, first class or air mail, this fifteenth day of August, 1967:

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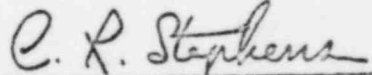
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