

Docket Nos. 50-270
and 50-287

NOV 20 1971

ENVIRO - FILE (NEPA)

Duke Power Company
ATTN: Mr. Austin U. Tides
Vice President
Production Operations
422 South Church Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28201

Gentlemen:

The Duke Power Company is the holder of Provisional Construction Permits Nos. CPPR-34 and CPPR-35, issued by the Atomic Energy Commission on November 6, 1967. The construction permits authorize the licensee to construct two pressurized water nuclear power reactors designated as the Oconee Nuclear Station Units 2 and 3, at the licensee's site in Oconee County, South Carolina. Each unit is designed for initial operation at approximately 2452 megawatts (thermal).

In accordance with section E.3 of the Commission's regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), Appendix D of 10 CFR Part 50, (Appendix D) the licensee has furnished to the Commission a written statement of reasons, with supporting factual submission, why the construction permits should not be suspended, in whole or in part, pending completion of the NEPA environmental review. This statement of reasons was furnished to the Commission on November 1, 1971.

The Director of Regulation has considered the licensee's submission in the light of the criteria set out in section E.2 of Appendix D, and has determined, after considering and balancing criteria in section E.2 of Appendix D, that construction activities at the Oconee Nuclear Station Units 2 and 3 authorized pursuant to CPPR-34 and CPPR-35 should not be suspended pending completion of the NEPA environmental review.

Further details of this determination are set forth in a document entitled "Discussion and Findings by the Division of Reactor Licensing, U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, Relating to Consideration of Suspension Pending NEPA Environmental Review of the Construction Permit for the Oconee Nuclear Station Units 2 and 3, Duke Power Company, AEC Docket Nos. 50-270 and 50-287, November 19, 1971," copy enclosed.

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NOV 20 1971

A copy of a related notice which has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication is also enclosed.

Sincerely,

Peter A. Morris, Director
Division of Reactor Licensing

Enclosures:

1. Discussion & Findings
2. Federal Register Notice

cc: w/encls

William L. Potter
Duke Power Company
P. O. Box 2178
422 South Church Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28201

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