Docket Nos. 50-269/270 & 287

JAN 1 2 1978

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Duke Power Company
AITM: Mr. William O. Parker, Jr.
Vice President
Steam Production
Post Office Box 2178
422 South Church Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28242

Gentlemen:

By letter dated October 14, 1977, you requested amendments to the Facility Operating Licenses for the Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 2, 2 and 3 which would permit the disposition of a fuel rod that was bent and partially dislodged from a Unit 1 spent fuel assembly while being handled in the Unit 1 and 2 spent fuel pool. It is our understanding from discussions with you, that your basis for requesting an amendment was that the procedure for removing the fuel rod involved a potential accident not described in the FSAR.

We have reviewed and evaluated your proposed procedure for removing the damaged fuel rod from assembly 1040 as described in your October 14. 1977 letter, and find that the potential accident associated with that procedure (i.e., rupture of the bent fuel rod) falls well within the bounds of the fuel handling accident described in the FSAR and evaluated by the NRC prior to licensing Oconee Unit 1. We conclude, that the removal of the fuel rod is acceptable as proposed and that a license amendment is not required in this case.

Our Safety Evaluation supporting our conclusion is enclosed.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

A. Schwencer, Chief Operating Reactors Branch #1 Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

ce w/enclosure; See next page

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cc: Mr. William L. Porter
Duke Power Company
P. O. Box 2178
422 South Church Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28242

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