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TO: Mr Rusche

FROM: Duke Power Company
Charlotte, NC
W O Parker Jr

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12-28-76

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DESCRIPTION

Ltr re their 9-5-76 ltr.....& our 11-23-76
ltr.....furnishing info concerning Appendix
J.....

ENCLOSURE

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ACKNOWLEDGED

PLANT NAME: Oconee 1-3

SAFETY

FOR ACTION/INFORMATION

ENVIRO

1-4-76 ehf

ASSIGNED AD:		ASSIGNED AD:	
BRANCH CHIEF:	<i>Schwencer (5)</i>	BRANCH CHIEF:	
PROJECT MANAGER:	<i>ZESH</i>	PROJECT MANAGER:	
LIC. ASST. :	<i>Sheppard</i>	LIC. ASST. :	

INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REG FILE	SYSTEMS SAFETY	PLANT SYSTEMS	SITE SAFETY &
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OELD		LAINAS	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOSSICK & STAFF	ENGINEERING	IPPOLITO	ENVIRO TECH.
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CASE	KNIGHT		BALLARD
HANAUER	SIHWEIL	OPERATING REACTORS	SPANGLER
HARLESS	PAWLICKI	STELLO	
			SITE TECH.
PROJECT MANAGEMENT	REACTOR SAFETY	OPERATING TECH.	GAMMILL
BOYD	ROSS	EISENHUT	STEPP
P. COLLINS	NOVAK	SHAO	HULMAN
HOUSTON	ROSZTGCZY	BAER	
PETERSON	CHECK	BUTLER	SITE ANALYSIS
MELTZ		GRIMES	VOLMER
HELTEMES	AT & I		BUNCH
SKOVHOLT	SALTZMAN		J. COLLINS
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EXTERNAL DISTRIBUTION

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TIC:	REG V. IE	ULRIKSON (ORNL)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NSIC:	LA PDR		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ASLB:	CONSULTANTS:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACRS 16 CYS HOLDING/SENT <i>AS CAT B 1-4-76</i>			

DUKE POWER COMPANY

POWER BUILDING

422 SOUTH CHURCH STREET, CHARLOTTE, N. C. 28242

Regulatory Docket File

WILLIAM G. PARKER, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT
STEAM PRODUCTION

TELEPHONE AREA 704
373-4083

December 28, 1976

Mr. Benard C. Rusche
Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Mr. A. Schwencer, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #1

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

Dear Mr. Rusche:

Our September 5, 1975 letter requested an exemption from the provisions of 10CFR50, Appendix J concerning the testing of containment airlocks. It was our interpretation that Section III.D.2 of Appendix J to 10CFR50 requires a Type B test to be performed at six-month intervals; however, those airlocks which are opened during such intervals were to be tested after each opening. Our letter described the design features of the Oconee containment airlocks which made this requirement impractical.

In your letter dated November 23, 1976, an acceptable approach to meeting the objectives of Appendix J was described. This requires, at six-month intervals, that the entire airlock assembly shall be leak tested at the peak pressure, Pa. Additionally, should the airlock be opened during the interval between the six-month tests, the airlock door seals shall be tested within 72 hours of every first opening of a series of openings. This leak test may be performed at a lower pressure (e.g., manufacturer's recommended pressure) and the results conservatively extrapolated to a leakage rate at the accident pressure, Pa.

It is our conclusion that your interpretation of the intent of 10CFR50, Appendix J provides a suitable alternative for testing the Oconee containment airlocks. In the case of the Oconee design, however, only the outer door in each airlock has a double seal and is therefore testable. The inner door only has one seal and cannot be tested. Proposed Technical

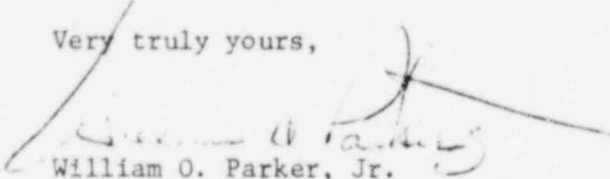


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Mr. Benard C. Rusche
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Specifications will be submitted by February 15, 1977 which incorporate these considerations into the testing of the Oconee containment airlocks.

Very truly yours,


William O. Parker, Jr.

MST:vr