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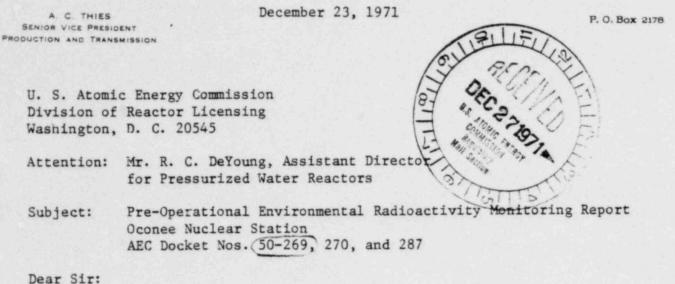


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DUKE POWER COMPANY

POWER BUILDING

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



This is in reply to your letter of December 8, 1971 forwarding comments from the U. S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service on subject report.

1. In regard to benthic organisms:

Page 6, item 6 of subject report, specifically listing among others, bottom organ' is, was a requirement that was received |01 from the AEC late in he pre-operational program period. A more accurate requirement for these samples is stated in the Final Safety Analysis Report, Section 2.7.2, revision 6, dated 6/22/70, which reads, "... samples are collected depending on availability." Soon after this requirement was received personnel from the South Carolina Wildlife Resources Department who furnish us with fish samples, conducted an extensive survey downstream of the effluent release point and were unable to find bottom organisms or crustaceans (crayfish), which were also required, in quantity. They did give us a small quantity of fresh water clams which we subjected to gamma analysis, finding only natural potassium-40.

However, in order to resolve the problem and your concerns in this regard, we will attempt to gather sufficient quantities of bottom organisms sometime prior to the operation of Oconee Unit 1 and subject them to comprehensive radioactivity analysis and measurement so that we will have background data available for comparison purposes during Unit 1 operation.

2. In regard to the nearest downstream sampling station from the radioactive waste discharge point:

The answer depends on the type sample. For example, a water sampling station is located approximately 2640 feet downstream. File Cy.

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DEC 27 197

A. C. THIES SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

> Division of Reactor Licensing Washington, D. C. 20545

Subject:

U. S. Atraic Energy Commission Page 2 December 23, 1971

Bottom sediment is collected at the shortest distance downstream where sediment persists and is not swept away by the Keowee hydroelectric plant operation. This is within the one mile Exclusion Area. Bottom organisms will be collected from the nearest that downstream where they can be found. Because of temporary construction conditions in the area this may be several miles downstream for freshwater clams. Also there is a dearth of bottom organisms upstream in Lake Keowee because it is a new lake. This obviously makes comparison of upstream and downstream samples quite difficult. But, this situation will be resolved during the operating period by analyzing downstream samples for the specific radionuclides released from the station in the liquid waste effluent.

We expect that the above information will answer your questions.

esident

ATTEST dura, &. Assistant Secretary

A. C. THIES has subscribed and sworn to the above statement before me, a Notary Public in and for the State of North Carolina and County of Mecklenburg, this 23rd day of December, 1971

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: