Daniel R. Muller, Assistant Director for Environmental Projects, RL

RESPONSE TO TAR NO. 1991

PLANT NAME: Oconee Units 1, 2 and 3

LICENSING STAGE: OL

DOCKET NUMBERS: 50-269, 50-270 and 50-287

RESPONSIBLE BRANCH: Environmental Projects Branch No. 2

PROJECT MANAGER: D. Scaletti

DATE REQUEST RECEIVED BY ESB: November 14, 1975

REQUESTED COMPLETION DATE: November 21, 1975

DESCRIPTION OF RESPONSE: Comment on Licensee's Proposed Changes to

Impingement Specification 1.4A of the Environmental Technical Specifications

REVIEW STATUS: Environmental Specialists Branch Review Complete

The ESB staff has completed its review of the proposed changes in the Environmental Technical Specification's Section 1.4A, Fish Impingement on Intake Screens, submitted in a letter dated May 20, 1975 by the Duke Power Company. Detailed comments are enclosed. Numbering of comments in the enclosure follows the numbering established in the May 20, 1975 memo.

The staff has formulated the following recommendations after meeting with members of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Department, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency on August 21, 1975 in Columbia, South Carolina:

- Deletion of the requirement for weekly visual inspection of the intake screens.
- Retention of the specification requiring a detailed analysis of the fish impinged on the intake screens each time a set of screens is pulled as a result of reduced pumping efficiency.
- Deletion of the quarterly underwater visual inspection of the intake screens by SCUBA.
- Inclusion of the quarterly inspection of six intake screens as proposed by the licensee.

5. Deletion of the 100 or more fish reporting requirement.

This review was performed by M. Masnik.

Droginal Signed by H. R. Denton

Harold R. Denton, Assistant Director for Site Safety Division of Technical Review Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: As stated

cc: w/o enclosure

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Docket File 50-269/270-287

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Form AEC-318 (Rev. 9-53) AECM 0240

TO U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1974-826-166

DETAILED COMMENTS

- The ESB staff agrees that the weekly visual inspection of the intake screens be deleted from the ETS.
- The ESB staff recommends retention of the specification requiring the 2. licensee to perform a detailed analysis of the fish impinged on the intake screens when one or more is pulled because of reduced pumping efficiency. In the first six months of 1975, a total of ten condenser cooling water intake screens were pulled, inspected and cleaned. These screens were removed because of reduced pumping efficiency of the associated condenser cooling water pumps. A total of 109,165 fish were reported from the ten screens. Since impinged fishes reduce pumping efficiency and past examination of pulled screens has shown high numbers of fish, it can be assumed that the days on which screens were pulled represents periods of high impingement. Indications from other operating plants impinging high numbers of threadfin shad have shown that a few peak days each year can account for a significant portion of the total annual impingement losses of this species. Thus, impinged fish counts at these times will provide us with estimates of peak fish impingement losses that may or may not be provided by the quarterly impingement study in 4 below.
- 3. The ESB staff recommends the deletion of the quarterly underwater visual inspection, by SCUBA, as proposed by the applicant.

- 4. The ESB staff recommends the inclusion of the proposed quarterly inspection of six intake screens as proposed by the licensee pending review of the formal submittal of the specification.
- 5. The ESB staff recommends the deletion of the 100 or more fish reporting requirement as proposed by the licensee.