

DUKE POWER COMPANY

POWER BUILDING

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

WILLIAM O. PARKER, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT
STEAM PRODUCTION

December 14, 1979

RECEIVED
DEC 17 10:10
TELEPHONE AREA 704
373-4083

Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Director
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street, Suite 3100
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Re: RII:CMH
50-269/79-25
50-270/79-23
50-287/79-25

Dear Sir:

With regard to your letter of November 21, 1979 which transmitted the subject report, Duke Power Company does not consider the report to be proprietary.

Please find attached our response to the cited item of noncompliance.

Very truly yours,

William O. Parker Jr.
William O. Parker, Jr. *by WAH*

KRW:scs
Attachment

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24 FEB 1980

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DUKE POWER COMPANY
OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION

Response to IE Inspection Report
50-269/79-25, -270/79-23, -287/79-25

ITEM

As required by 10 CFR 20.203(c)(2), each entrance or access point to a high radiation area shall be maintained locked except during period when access to the area is required, with positive control over each individual entry.

Contrary to the above, on October 11, 1979, the door leading to Room 251 (Deborating Demineralizer Hatch Area) was found unlatched. The radiation level in accessible areas inside this room was 250 mR/hour. Positive control over each individual entry into the room was not in effect.

This is an infraction. Similar items were brought to your attention in our letters dated September 10, 1979, December 12, 1978, and October 18, 1978.

RESPONSE

The following inspection reports (numbers abbreviated) have dealt with control of access to high radiation areas: 77-22, -22, -22; 78-07, -07, -07; 78-12, -11, -11; 78-20, -20, -21; 78-27, -26, -27; and 79-20, -18, -20. Although previous corrective actions have improved access control significantly, these actions have not proven to be totally effective. Therefore, new corrective actions will be taken in several different areas.

To help ensure positive control over high radiation areas which are barricaded with locked doors, the following steps have been taken:

1. Health Physics personnel are making at least one survey per shift to inspect the high radiation area doors.
2. All high radiation area doors have been placed on a preventative maintenance schedule to ensure proper operation.
3. All high radiation area doors have been adjusted to close and lock when released (assuming no obstruction in the doorway or closing mechanism).

In addition to the steps listed above, the following measures are being evaluated to resolve instances of the doors closing but not locking:

1. The door closer mechanism can be adjusted to exert greater closing strength for any door position. The latch striker plate hole can also be enlarged to provide a greater area of latch engagement.
2. A local battery operated alarm for each door can be fitted with a remote switch actuated by the latching mechanism. This would provide a time-delayed alarm if the door was not latched properly. There are several disadvantages to this approach, including (a) procurement of a suitable remote switch, (b) modification of the alarms to allow a time delay before sounding with a limited time delay (forty-five seconds) available, (c) high battery drain of

the alarms with the resulting large maintenance expense, and (d) excessive loudness of the alarms for personnel in the immediate area.

2. A centrally located panel with alarm lights can be installed. The lights would be actuated by the latch mechanism as in Item (2) above. A switch suitable for this application is currently available. This alternative is the most expensive to implement but also probably the most reliable.