

70-2623

DUKE POWER COMPANY

CHARLOTTE, N. C. 28242

September 10, 1981

A. C. THIES
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
PRODUCTION AND TRANSMISSION

Mr. Darrell G. Eisenhut
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Phillips Building
7920 Norfolk Avenue
Washington, D. C. 20555



Dear Mr. Eisenhut:

This is a follow-up of our telephone conversation this morning in which I asked that you expedite the proposed amendment to the McGuire Indemnity Agreement so that the Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation can issue the amendment to the McGuire Part 70 license. We urgently need the Part 70 amendment to begin shipping fuel from Oconee to McGuire by mid-October approximately one month away.

As a bit of background, we do feel that some extra consideration is warranted because the matter has dragged on for considerable time. We applied for this amendment back in March, 1978 and after more than four weeks of hearings covering the period June, 1979 through April, 1980, the Licensing Board issued in October, 1980 its initial decision which denied our application. On August 10, 1981, the Appeal Board reversed in every respect the initial decision and authorized the Director to issue the amendment.

I am not sure that all parties in Washington appreciate the urgency of the situation requiring that we move fuel by October of this year. By April, 1982 we must move approximately 250 spent fuel assemblies from the Oconee Unit 3 spent fuel pool. Most of these assemblies will be transferred to the 1 and 2 pool; however, a number of them must be shipped to McGuire for storage.

Earlier this year we completed a reracking of the Oconee unit 1 and 2 spent fuel pool which required that we transfer that fuel to the Oconee 3 pool, so that pool is now essentially full. As you know, Oconee 1 is shut down for refueling and 10-year in-service inspection plus repairs to reactor internals and we anticipate the startup of that unit sometime in early 1982.

Oconee unit 2 is scheduled for its 10-year in-service inspection in October of this year (we have a present outage that might extend this slightly) and we do not know when the #2 unit will be ready for restart, but probably not before the first of the year.

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Mr. Darrell G. Eisenhut

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We are proposing to shut down unit #3 for refueling and 10-year in-service inspection in May of 1982. In order to receive and store new fuel for the #3 unit as well as unload the core of that unit in May, we will have to remove 250 assemblies from that pool before April, 1982. It is essential that we begin moving fuel from the Oconee #3 pool as soon as possible, both to McGuire and to #1 and #2 pool.

We do appreciate the fact that you had already begun to investigate this matter prior to my call and that you have agreed to continue to expedite the indemnity agreement such that the Commission can take timely action so that we can receive our Part 70 Amendment and begin shipping by mid-October.

Yours very truly,



A. C. Thies
Senior Vice President
Production and Transmission

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DUKE POWER COMPANY

P. O. Box 33189

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ALWAYS USE

ZIP CODE

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