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HAL B. TUCKER VICE PRESIDENT NUCLEAR PRODUCTION

TELEPHONE (704) 373-4531

October 7, 1983

Mr. Harold R. D. Lon, Director Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Mr. John F. Stolz, Chief Operating Reactors Branch No. 4

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

Dear Sir:

On November 30, 1982, Duke Power, Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), and Babcock and Wilcox met with the NRC to discuss the design and licensing of zircaloy intermediate spacer grids in B&W fuel assemblies. In follow-up to that meeting and in support of the Oconee 1 Cycle 9 reload submittal currently planned for late 1984, the attached B&W report is provided for NRC review and approval. This report was originally prepared for SMUD and it is our understanding that they will be formally submitting it shortly. Also included is an affidavit by James Taylor, B&W, in support of the proprietary classification of the document.

The attached report entitled, "Rancho Seco Cycle 7 Reload Report - Volume 1. Mark BZ Fuel Assembly Design Report", April 1983, BAW-1781P is being submitted by Duke at this time in order to facilitate Staff approval prior to the fabrication of fuel assemblies for Oconee 1, Batch 11, utilizing the MKBZ design.

Our current intentions are to submit the remainder of the reload analysis in September 1984 based on full capacity through the remainder of the current cycle. Duke proposes that any license fees required as a result of NRC review of the enclosed report be included along with the license fee provided with the reload analysis. Duke requests approval of this document at the Staff's earliest convenience.

Very truly yours, Val B. Tucke

Hal B. Tucker

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Attachment (Copy 92)

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cc: Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Regional Administrator (Copy 93)
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Mr. J. C. Bryant (Copy 94) NRC Resident Inspector Oconee Nuclear Station

Mr. John F. Suermann (Copy 95) Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D. C. 20555