DUKE POWER COMPANY
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HAL B. TUCKER
VICE PRESIDENT
NUCLEAR PRODUCTION

TELEPHONE
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October 17, 1983

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

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

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

Please find attached a Special 5-Day Report concerning the de-energization of Oconee's standby buses to allow for operability performance testing of the standby bus breakers with Keowee Unit 1 out of service. This report is submitted pursuant to Oconee Nuclear Station Technical Specification 3.7.9 and describes an incident which is considered to be of no significance with respect to its effect on the health and safety of the public.

Very truly yours,

Hal B. Tucker

Hal B. Tucker

JCP/php

Attachment

cc: Document Control Desk
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

INPO Records Center
Suite 1500
1100 Circle 75 Parkway
Atlanta, Georgia 30339

Mr. J. C. Bryant
NRC Resident Inspector
Oconee Nuclear Station

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

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JPO/HBT/JCP
October 17, 1983

Duke Power Company
Oconee Nuclear Station
Special Report

De-energization of Oconee's Standby Buses to Allow for Operability Performance Testing of the Standby Bus Breakers While Keowee Unit 1 Was Out of Service

On October 12, 1983, with Keowee Unit 1 out of service for planned maintenance and Keowee Unit 2 available, Lee "6C" Gas Turbine was being used to energize both Oconee 4160V Standby Buses as required by Technical Specification 3.7.4. At 1635 hours Standby Bus 1 was de-energized to allow the operability test of 4160 Volt Breakers to be performed as required by Technical Specification 4.6.1.d. Standby Bus 1 was re-energized and Standby Bus 2 was de-energized for testing its breakers. The Standby Bus 2 was re-energized at 1724 hours. The testing of the standby bus breakers causing the buses to be de-energized placed the two operating Oconee units in a degraded mode beyond that allowed by Technical Specification 3.7.4.a. This incident is reportable to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in accordance with Technical Specification 3.7.9.

A safety evaluation was performed pursuant to Technical Specification 3.7.9 and the decision was made that allowed continued operation of the units since one standby bus and the Keowee underground feeder were always available during the test. Also, the breaker being tested could be closed in a matter of seconds, thereby providing power from the second standby bus as needed. The total time that Oconee had only one standby bus (either Standby Bus 1 or Standby Bus 2) energized from Lee Steam Station was 49 minutes.

At the time of the test, Lee "6C" Gas Turbine was still providing power to the Oconee standby buses via the 100 KV transmission line and in addition emergency power was available from Keowee via the underground feeder. Also available was the normal Duke Power Company transmission system to the 230 KV switchyard via at least two 230 KV transmission lines on separate towers. The probability of losing offsite power during this testing is very small; therefore, the health and safety of the public were not endangered.