

December 20, 1999

Mr. W. R. McCollum, Jr.
Vice President, Oconee Site
Duke Energy Corporation
7800 Rochester Highway
Seneca, SC 29672

SUBJECT: OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1, 2 AND 3 RE: RELIEF REQUEST
NO. 99-01, STEAM GENERATOR OUTLET NOZZLE WELDS
(TAC NOS. MA5562, MA5563, AND MA5564)

Dear Mr. McCollum:

By letter dated May 26, 1999, Duke Energy Corporation submitted Relief Request No. 99-01 for Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3 third inservice inspection interval. The request pertains to relief from the volumetric examination of essentially 100 percent of the volume as required by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code, Section XI, for the steam generator outlet nozzle-to-vessel welds and the outlet nozzle inside radius sections. The code-required examination was deemed impractical due to geometry of the component and the interference from the steam generator support skirt.

As discussed in the enclosed safety evaluation, the staff has determined that the proposed alternative to the examination requirement is acceptable since the examination coverage of the accessible weld volume and of the nozzle inside radius sections that are accessible provides reasonable assurance of the structural integrity of the subject welds and the components. Therefore, relief is hereby granted pursuant to the provisions of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 50.55a(g)(6)(i) for the Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Richard L. Emch, Jr., Section Chief, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270, and 50-287

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R L Emch, Jr." followed by a flourish.

Richard L. Emch, Jr., Section Chief, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270, and 50-287

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

Oconee Nuclear Station

cc:

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