



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET, SW, SUITE 23T85
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931

August 30, 2005

Duke Energy Corporation
ATTN: Mr. Ronald A. Jones
Vice President
Oconee Site
7800 Rochester Highway
Seneca, SC 29672

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN - OCONEE
NUCLEAR STATION

Dear Mr. Jones:

On August 3, 2005, the NRC staff completed its performance review of the Oconee Nuclear Station for the first half of the calendar year 2005 assessment cycle. Our technical staff reviewed performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results over the previous twelve months. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility.

This performance review and the enclosed inspection plan do not include physical protection information. A separate letter designated and marked as "Exempt from Public Disclosure in Accordance with 10 CFR 2.390" will include the physical protection review and a resultant inspection plan.

Plant performance for the most recent quarter was within the Regulatory Response Column of the NRC's Action Matrix due to a third quarter 2004 Mitigating Systems cornerstone finding of low to moderate safety significance (White) involving a failure to maintain the licensing basis commitment for staffing the standby shutdown facility (SSF) in the event of a confirmed plant fire. As discussed in the Annual Assessment Letter, dated March 2, 2005, we conducted a Supplemental Inspection using NRC Inspection Procedure 95002, the week of May 23, 2005. The results of this inspection, documented in NRC Inspection Report 05000269,270,287/2005006, issued on June 22, 2005, determined that your problem identification, extent-of-condition evaluation, and corrective actions for this White finding, as well as a third quarter 2003 White finding discussed in the Annual Assessment Letter were adequate.

For your information, the following issues are still under staff review as part of the Significance Determination Process and may warrant additional supplemental inspections if they are determined to be of greater than very low risk significance.

- URI 05000269,270,287/2004002-04 (Potential Failure to Maintain RB Coatings per GL 98-04 Commitments, Resulting in Potential Loss of RBES Recirculation)
- URI 05000287/2002007-02 (Unit 3 Control Room Wall not Designed to Withstand Tornado Loads) and URI 05000287/2004003-02 (Inadequate Corrective Actions Related

to the Improper Use of 10 CFR 50.59 to Change the UFSAR Tornado Missile Design Requirements of the Unit 3 Control Room)

Based on the results of the Supplemental Inspection, we plan to conduct only reactor oversight process baseline inspections at your facility through March 31, 2007. We also plan on conducting inspections that are not part of the routine baseline inspection program. These inspections include a routine inspection associated with your independent spent fuel storage installation; a safety issue inspection concerning the reactor pressurizer penetration nozzles and steam space piping connections (NRC Bulletin 2004-01); and the administration of operator licensing examinations.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, less those related to physical protection scheduled through March 31, 2007. The inspection plan is provided to minimize the resource impact on your staff and to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues well in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last twelve months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle review meeting.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If circumstances arise which cause us to change the inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact Michael Ernstes at (404) 562-4540 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Charles A. Casto, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270, 50-287
License Nos. DRP-38, DRP-47, DRP-55

Enclosure: Oconee Inspection/Activity Plan

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Oconee
Inspection / Activity Plan
09/01/2005 - 03/31/2007

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates Start	Planned Dates End	Inspection Type
	PS1-RP - RP PREINSPECTION VISIT/ ISFSI		1			
1, 2, 3	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		09/27/2005	09/29/2005	Baseline Inspections
	PS1-RP - RP OCCUPATIONAL BASELINE WK-1		3			
1, 2, 3	IP 2515/161	Transportation of Reactor Control Rod Drives in Type A Packages		10/23/2005	10/27/2005	Safety Issues
1, 2, 3	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		10/23/2005	10/27/2005	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		10/23/2005	10/27/2005	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7112202	Radioactive Material Processing and Transportation		10/23/2005	10/27/2005	Baseline Inspections
1, 2	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		10/23/2005	10/27/2005	Baseline Inspections
	EB3-ISI - U2 INSERVICE INSPECTION		2			
2	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR		10/31/2005	11/04/2005	Baseline Inspections
	EB3TI160 - 2515/160 U-2: PZR PENETRATION NOZZLES		1			
2	IP 2515/160	Pzr Pene Nozzles & Stm Space Piping Connections in U.S. PWRs [NRC Bulletin 2004-01]		10/31/2005	11/04/2005	Safety Issues
	EB3SGISI - STEAM GENERATOR ISI		2			
2	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR		11/07/2005	11/10/2005	Baseline Inspections
	PS1-RP - RP OCCUPATIONAL BASELINE WK-2		3			
1, 2, 3	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		11/07/2005	11/11/2005	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls		11/07/2005	11/11/2005	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7112202	Radioactive Material Processing and Transportation		11/07/2005	11/11/2005	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		11/07/2005	11/11/2005	Baseline Inspections
	EB350.59 - 50.59 CORRECTIVE ACTION		1			
1, 2, 3	IP 71152	Identification and Resolution of Problems		12/05/2005	12/09/2005	Baseline Inspections
	EB1SSDPC - SSDPC PRE-INSPECTION VISIT		1			
1, 2, 3	IP 7111121	Safety System Design and Performance Capability		01/16/2006	01/20/2006	Baseline Inspections
	EB1SSDPC - SAFETY SYSTEM DESIGN & PERF. CAPABILITY		6			
1, 2, 3	IP 7111121	Safety System Design and Performance Capability		02/13/2006	02/17/2006	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7111121	Safety System Design and Performance Capability		02/27/2006	03/03/2006	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7111121	Safety System Design and Performance Capability		03/13/2006	03/17/2006	Baseline Inspections
	EB3-ISI - U3 INSERVICE INSPECTION		1			
3	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR		05/08/2006	05/12/2006	Baseline Inspections
	EB3SGISI - U3 STEAM GENERATOR ISI		1			
3	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR		05/15/2006	05/19/2006	Baseline Inspections
	OL PREP - INITIAL EXAM PREP		3			
1	V23216	OCONEE/EXAMS AT POWER FACILITIES		05/22/2006	05/26/2006	Not Applicable
	PS1-RP - RP BASELINE PUBLIC		4			
1, 2, 3	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas		06/19/2006	06/23/2006	Baseline Inspections

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

Enclosure

Oconee
Inspection / Activity Plan
09/01/2005 - 03/31/2007

Unit Number	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site	Planned Dates Start	Planned Dates End	Inspection Type
PS1-RP - RP BASELINE PUBLIC			4			
1, 2, 3	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation and Protective Equipment		06/19/2006	06/23/2006	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7112201	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment and Monitoring Systems		06/19/2006	06/23/2006	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7112203	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program (REMP) And Radioactive Material Control P		06/19/2006	06/23/2006	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		06/19/2006	06/23/2006	Baseline Inspections
OL EXAM - INITIAL EXAM			3			
1	V23216	OCONEE/EXAMS AT POWER FACILITIES		06/19/2006	06/30/2006	Not Applicable
PS2-EP - EP EXERCISE			3			
1, 2, 3	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation		07/17/2006	07/21/2006	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes		07/17/2006	07/21/2006	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification		07/17/2006	07/21/2006	Baseline Inspections
EB3-HS - HEAT SINK			2			
1, 2, 3	IP 7111107B	Heat Sink Performance		07/24/2006	07/28/2006	Baseline Inspections
EB1-MODS - MODIFICATIONS/10CFR50.59			3			
1, 2, 3	IP 7111102	Evaluation of Changes, Tests, or Experiments		10/02/2006	10/06/2006	Baseline Inspections
1, 2, 3	IP 711117B	Permanent Plant Modifications		10/02/2006	10/06/2006	Baseline Inspections
EB3-ISI - U1 INSERVICE INSPECTION			1			
1	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR		10/16/2006	10/20/2006	Baseline Inspections
EB3SGISI - U1 STEAM GENERATOR ISI			1			
1	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR		10/23/2006	10/27/2006	Baseline Inspections
EB3-MR - MR EFFECTIVENESS			2			
1, 2, 3	IP 711112B	Maintenance Effectiveness		12/04/2006	12/08/2006	Baseline Inspections
OL RQ - REQUAL INSPECTION			2			
1, 2, 3	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program		03/26/2007	03/30/2007	Baseline Inspections