



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

March 4, 2011

Mr. T. Preston Gillespie, Jr.
Site Vice President
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
Oconee Nuclear Station
7800 Rochester Highway
Seneca, SC 29672

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION UNITS
1, 2, AND 3 (REPORT 05000269/2011001, 05000270/2011001, AND
05000287/2011001)

Dear Mr. Gillespie:

On February 9, 2011, the NRC completed its end-of-cycle performance review of Oconee Nuclear Station (ONS) Units 1, 2, and 3. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility. This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include security information. A separate letter will include the NRC's assessment of your performance in the Security Cornerstone and its security-related inspection plan.

The NRC determined the performance at ONS Units 1, 2, and 3 for the most recent quarter was within the Degraded Cornerstone Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix based on one inspection finding being classified as having substantial safety significance (Yellow) in the Mitigating Systems Cornerstone related to the failure to ensure the Standby Shutdown Facility (SSF) Reactor Coolant Makeup (RCM) subsystem for all three units remained operable as required by Technical Specifications. Additionally, ONS Units 2 and 3 had one inspection finding classified as having low to moderate safety significance (White) in the Mitigating Systems Cornerstone related to a failure to identify and correct ONS Unit 2 and Unit 3 SSF RCM letdown line degradation in a timely manner after similar degradation was identified on ONS Unit 1. On December 17, 2010, the NRC completed a supplemental inspection in accordance with Inspection Procedure 95002, "Supplemental Inspection for One Degraded Cornerstone or Any Three White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area." Based on the results of this inspection, the NRC determined that your staff adequately addressed the causes for both of these findings. Therefore, both findings are considered closed and ONS Units 1, 2, and 3 transitioned to the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's ROP Action Matrix on January 1, 2011.

The NRC identifies substantive cross-cutting issues (SCCIs) to communicate a concern with licensee performance in a cross-cutting area and to encourage the licensee to take appropriate actions before more significant performance issues emerge. The NRC identified a cross-cutting theme in the Work Practices component of the Human Performance cross-cutting area.

Specifically, four NRC-identified violations were identified as having the cross-cutting aspect of procedure use (H.4.(b)). While we recognize that the high level of activities at your site may be a contributor to this theme, the NRC determined that an SCCI exists because the NRC has a concern with your staff's scope of effort and progress in addressing the cross-cutting theme. Your staff previously identified procedure use and adherence cross-cutting area as needing improvement in 2007, 2008, and 2009. However, your staff's efforts to correct this cross-cutting area were narrowly focused and ineffective as demonstrated by the four NRC-identified findings related to this cross-cutting aspect. The SCCI will remain open until the NRC has confidence that your corrective actions are sufficient, based in part on a reduction in the number of findings below the SCCI threshold. The NRC will monitor your staff's effort and progress in addressing the SCCI by a focused problem identification annual sample to evaluate the planned corrective actions and a review during the biennial Problem Identification and Resolution inspection to verify the effectiveness of the corrective actions.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through June 30, 2012. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. We also plan on conducting several infrequently performed inspections which include: Inspection Procedure 52003, "Digital Instrumentation and Control Modification Inspection;" initial reactor operator licensing examinations; and Temporary Instruction 2515/179, "Verification of Licensee Responses to NRC Requirement for Inventories of Materials Tracked in the National Source Tracking System Pursuant to Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20.2207 (10 CFR 20.2207)." Additionally, the staff will continue its review of issues associated with fire, tornado, and high energy line break mitigation. The inspections listed during the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the mid-cycle performance review. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes.

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).

Please contact Mr. Jonathan Bartley at (404) 997-4607 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Victor M. McCree
Regional Administrator

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

cc w/Encl: (See page 3)

Enclosure: Oconee Inspection/Activity Plan (03/01/2011 – 6/30/2012)

DEC

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cc w/encl:
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Oconee

Inspection / Activity Plan

03/01/2011 - 06/30/2012

Unit Number	Planned Dates Start	Planned Dates End	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
1	01/17/2011	03/31/2011	EB1-RPS - MODS INSPECTION-DIGITAL RPS IP 52003	Digital Instrumentation and Control Modification Inspection	3
1, 2, 3	02/28/2011	03/04/2011	OL RQ - REQUAL INSPECTION IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program	3
1	04/01/2011	06/30/2011	EB1-RPS - MODS INSPECTION-DIGITAL RPS IP 52003	Digital Instrumentation and Control Modification Inspection	3
1	04/11/2011	04/15/2011	EB3 ISI - UNIT 1 INSERVICE INSPECTION IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	2
1	04/11/2011	04/15/2011	EB3SGISI - UNIT 1 SG INSERVICE INSPECTION IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	1
1	04/11/2011	04/15/2011	OL EXAM - INITIAL EXAM PREP V23348	OCONEE/APRIL 2011 EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	5
1	05/02/2011	05/06/2011	OL EXAM - INITIAL EXAM WEEK V23348	OCONEE/APRIL 2011 EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	5
1	07/01/2011	09/30/2011	EB1-RPS - MODS INSPECTION-DIGITAL RPS IP 52003	Digital Instrumentation and Control Modification Inspection	3
1, 2, 3	08/15/2011	08/19/2011	CDBI - COMPONENT DESIGN BASES INSPECTION IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	6
1, 2, 3	08/29/2011	09/02/2011	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1, 2, 3	09/12/2011	09/16/2011	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1, 2, 3	09/26/2011	09/30/2011	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1, 2, 3	08/22/2011	08/26/2011	PSB1EP - EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS INSPECTION IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing	1
1, 2, 3	08/22/2011	08/26/2011	IP 7111403	Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
1, 2, 3	08/22/2011	08/26/2011	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1, 2, 3	08/22/2011	08/26/2011	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	
1, 2, 3	08/22/2011	08/26/2011	IP 711151	Performance Indicator Verification	
1	09/26/2011	09/30/2011	OL EXAM - INITIAL EXAM PREP V23361	OCONEE/OCTOBER 2011 EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	4
1	10/17/2011	10/21/2011	OL EXAM - INITIAL EXAM WEEK V23361	OCONEE/OCTOBER 2011 EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	3
1, 2	10/24/2011	10/28/2011	PSB1-RP - RP OCCUPATIONAL WEEK 1 IP 2515/179	Verification of Licensee Responses to NRC Requirement for Inventories of Materials Tracked in NSTS	3
1, 2, 3	10/24/2011	10/28/2011	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1, 2, 3	10/24/2011	10/28/2011	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.

This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

Oconee

Inspection / Activity Plan

03/01/2011 - 06/30/2012

Unit Number	Planned Dates Start	Planned Dates End	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
1, 2, 3	10/24/2011	10/28/2011	PSB1-RP - RP OCCUPATIONAL WEEK 1	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	3
1, 2, 3	10/24/2011	10/28/2011	IP 71124.03	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1, 2, 3	10/24/2011	10/28/2011	IP 71124.04	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	
1, 2, 3	10/24/2011	10/28/2011	IP 71124.08	Performance Indicator Verification	
1, 2, 3	10/24/2011	10/28/2011	IP 71151		
2	10/31/2011	11/04/2011	EB3 ISI - UNIT 2 IN-SERVICE INSPECTION	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	1
2	10/31/2011	11/04/2011	IP 7111108P		
2	10/31/2011	11/04/2011	EB3-LR - PHASE 1: U2 POST APPROVAL LIC RENEWAL	Post-Approval Site Inspection for License Renewal	2
2	10/31/2011	11/04/2011	IP 71003		
2	10/31/2011	11/04/2011	EB3SGISI - UNIT 2 SG INSERVICE INSPECTION	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	1
2	10/31/2011	11/04/2011	IP 7111108P		
1, 2	11/14/2011	11/18/2011	PSB1-RP - RP OCCUPATIONAL WEEK 2	Verification of Licensee Responses to NRC Requirement for Inventories of Materials Tracked in NSTS	3
1, 2, 3	11/14/2011	11/18/2011	IP 2515/179	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1, 2, 3	11/14/2011	11/18/2011	IP 71124.01	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1, 2, 3	11/14/2011	11/18/2011	IP 71124.02	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1, 2, 3	11/14/2011	11/18/2011	IP 71124.03	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1, 2, 3	11/14/2011	11/18/2011	IP 71124.04	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	
1, 2, 3	11/14/2011	11/18/2011	IP 71124.08	Performance Indicator Verification	
1, 2, 3	11/14/2011	11/18/2011	IP 71151		
1, 2, 3	11/28/2011	12/02/2011	PI&R - PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION AND RESOLUTION	Identification and Resolution of Problems	5
1, 2, 3	12/12/2011	12/16/2011	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems	
1, 2, 3	12/12/2011	12/16/2011	IP 71152B		
1, 2, 3	01/16/2012	01/20/2012	EB3 HS - TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK INSPECTION	Heat Sink Performance	1
1, 2, 3	01/16/2012	01/20/2012	IP 7111107T		
1, 2, 3	03/26/2012	03/30/2012	OCO TFPI - TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION INSPECTION	Fire Protection-NFPA 805 Transition Period [Triennial]	6
1, 2, 3	04/09/2012	04/12/2012	IP 7111105P	Fire Protection-NFPA 805 Transition Period [Triennial]	
3	04/23/2012	04/27/2012	EB3 ISI - UNIT 3 INSERVICE INSPECTION	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	1
3	04/23/2012	04/27/2012	IP 7111108P		
3	04/23/2012	04/27/2012	EB3SGISI - UNIT 3 SG INSERVICE INSPECTION	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	1
3	04/23/2012	04/27/2012	IP 7111108P		
1, 2, 3	04/30/2012	05/04/2012	PSB1-RP - RADIOLOGICAL HAZARD ASSESSMENT	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	1
1	05/21/2012	05/25/2012	OL EXAM - INITIAL EXAM PREP	OCONEE / JUNE 2012 EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	5
			V23371		

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Oconee

Inspection / Activity Plan

03/01/2011 - 06/30/2012

Unit Number	Planned Dates Start	Planned Dates End	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
1, 2, 3	06/04/2012	06/08/2012	PSB1-RP	- PUBLIC RADIATION SAFETY BASELINE	3
			IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1, 2, 3	06/04/2012	06/08/2012	IP 71124.06	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
1, 2, 3	06/04/2012	06/08/2012	IP 71124.07	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program	
1, 2, 3	06/04/2012	06/08/2012	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
1	06/11/2012	06/15/2012	OL EXAM	- INITIAL EXAM WEEK	5
			V23371	OCONEE / JUNE 2012 EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	

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