



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

September 1, 2015

Mr. Scott Batson
Site Vice President
Duke Energy Corporation
Oconee Nuclear Station
7800 Rochester Highway
Seneca, SC 29672-0752

**SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION UNITS
1, 2 AND 3 (NRC INSPECTION REPORT 05000269/2015005, 05000270/2015005
AND 05000287/2015005)**

Dear Mr. Batson:

On August 11, 2015, the NRC completed its mid-cycle performance review of the Oconee Nuclear Station Units 1, 2 and 3. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility.

The NRC determined the performance at Oconee Units 1, 2, and 3 during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix because all inspection findings had very low (i.e., green) safety significance, and all PIs indicated that your performance was within the nominal, expected range (i.e., green). Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct ROP baseline inspections at your facility.

Oconee Unit 1 was in the Regulatory Response Column of the Action Matrix following the end-of-cycle 2014 assessment because of one white inspection finding in the initiating events cornerstone. On February 27, 2015, the NRC completed the supplemental inspection under Inspection Procedure 95001, "Supplemental Inspection for One or Two White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area." As a result, on April 1, 2015, Oconee Nuclear Station Unit 1 moved to the Licensee Response Column of the ROP Action Matrix.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through June 30, 2017. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. Additionally, the staff will continue its review of modifications associated with fire, tornado, high energy line break mitigation, external flooding, and the protected service water system. The inspections listed during the second half of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-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. This inspection plan does not include security related inspections which will be sent via separate, non-publicly available correspondence.

In response to the accident at Fukushima, the Commission issued Order EA-12-049, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Requirements for Mitigation Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events." The order requires licensees to develop, implement, and maintain guidance and strategies to maintain or restore core cooling, containment, and spent fuel pool cooling capabilities following a beyond-design-basis external event. Additionally, the Commission issued Order EA-12-051, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Reliable Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation." The order requires licensees to have a reliable means of remotely monitoring wide-range spent fuel pool levels to support effective prioritization of event mitigation and recovery actions in the event of a beyond-design-basis external event. The NRC is conducting audits of licensee efforts towards compliance with these orders. The audit was completed for the Oconee Nuclear Station, and the information gathered will aid staff in development of the ultimate safety evaluation for the site. After the NRC staff receives the final compliance letter for the site, the final safety evaluation will be issued. Then, the NRC staff will confirm through inspections the full implementation of the orders mentioned above by performing TI 191: "Inspection of the Implementation of Mitigation Strategies and Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation Orders and Emergency Preparedness Communication/Staffing/Multi-Unit Dose Assessment Plans."

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be 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 me at 404-997-4611 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Joel T. Munday, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

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

License Nos.: DPR-38, DPR-47, DPR-55

Enclosure: Oconee Inspection/Activity Plan
(09/01/2015 – 06/30/2017)

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PUBLICLY AVAILABLE NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE SENSITIVE NON-SENSITIVE
ADAMS: Yes ACCESSION NUMBER: ML15244B037 SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE FORM 665 ATTACHED

OFFICE	RII:DRP	RII:DRP	RII:DRP				
SIGNATURE	JGW1	FJE	JTM				
NAME	J. Worosilo	F. Ehrhardt	J. Munday				
DATE	8/17/2015	8/19/2015	8/19/2015	9/ /2015	9/ /2015	9/ /2015	9/ /2015
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

Letter to S. Batson from J. Munday dated September 1, 2015

SUBJECT: MD-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION UNITS
1, 2 AND 3 (NRC INSPECTION REPORT 05000269/2015005, 05000270/2015005
AND 05000287/2015005)

Distribution w/encl:

C. Evans, RII

L. Gibson, RII

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RidsNrrPMOconee Resource

ROP Assessment

Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO)

Oconee
Inspection / Activity Plan
09/01/2015 - 06/30/2017

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
			HS - TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK PERFORMANCE		1
1, 2, 3	08/31/2015	09/04/2015	IP 7111107T	Heat Sink Performance	
			EP - EP PROGRAM INSPECTION		4
1, 2, 3	09/28/2015	10/02/2015	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing	
1, 2, 3	09/28/2015	10/02/2015	IP 7111403	Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
1, 2, 3	09/28/2015	10/02/2015	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1, 2, 3	09/28/2015	10/02/2015	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	
1, 2, 3	09/28/2015	10/02/2015	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			ISI - UNIT 2 IN-SERVICE INSPECTION		1
2	10/19/2015	10/23/2015	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
			RP - RP OCCUPATIONAL BASELINE WEEK 1		2
1, 2, 3	10/19/2015	10/23/2015	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1, 2, 3	10/19/2015	10/23/2015	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1, 2, 3	10/19/2015	10/23/2015	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1, 2, 3	10/19/2015	10/23/2015	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1, 2, 3	10/19/2015	10/23/2015	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1, 2, 3	10/19/2015	10/23/2015	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			SGISI - UNIT 2 SG IN-SERVICE INSPECTION		1
2	10/26/2015	10/30/2015	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
			OL EXAM - INITIAL LICENSE EXAM PREP		3
1	11/02/2015	11/06/2015	V23465	OCONEE NOVEMBER 2015 INITIAL EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	
			RP - RP OCCUPATIONAL BASELINE WEEK 2		3
1, 2, 3	11/02/2015	11/06/2015	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1, 2, 3	11/02/2015	11/06/2015	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1, 2, 3	11/02/2015	11/06/2015	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1, 2, 3	11/02/2015	11/06/2015	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1, 2, 3	11/02/2015	11/06/2015	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1, 2, 3	11/02/2015	11/06/2015	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			OL EXAM - INITIAL LICENSE EXAM		3
1	11/30/2015	12/11/2015	V23465	OCONEE NOVEMBER 2015 INITIAL EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	
			TFPI - TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION INSPECTION		4
1, 2, 3	02/29/2016	03/04/2016	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
1, 2, 3	03/14/2016	03/18/2016	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	

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

Enclosure

Oconee
Inspection / Activity Plan
09/01/2015 - 06/30/2017

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
			ISI - UNIT 3 IN-SERVICE INSPECTION		1
3	05/02/2016	05/06/2016	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
			RP - RAD HAZARDS ANALYSIS AND TRANSPORTATION		2
1, 2, 3	05/02/2016	05/06/2016	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1, 2, 3	05/02/2016	05/06/2016	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	
			SGISI - UNIT 3 SG IN-SERVICE INSPECTION		1
3	05/09/2016	05/13/2016	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
			OL EXAM - INITIAL LICENSE EXAM PREP		3
1	05/16/2016	05/20/2016	V23470	OCONEE JUNE 2016 INITIAL EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	
			RP - RP PUBLIC RAD SAFETY BASELINE		2
1, 2, 3	06/06/2016	06/10/2016	IP 71124.06	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
1, 2, 3	06/06/2016	06/10/2016	IP 71124.07	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program	
1, 2, 3	06/06/2016	06/10/2016	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			OL EXAM - INITIAL LICENSE EXAM		3
1	06/13/2016	06/17/2016	V23470	OCONEE JUNE 2016 INITIAL EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	
			EP - EP EXERCISE INSPECTION		6
1, 2, 3	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation	
1, 2, 3	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1, 2, 3	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 7111408	Exercise Evaluation – Scenario Review	
1, 2, 3	10/17/2016	10/21/2016	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			ISI - UNIT 1 IN-SERVICE INSPECTION		1
1	11/14/2016	11/18/2016	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
			SGISI - UNIT 1 SG IN-SERVICE INSPECTION		1
1	11/21/2016	11/25/2016	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
			CDBI - COMPONENT DESIGN BASIS INSPECTION		7
1, 2, 3	01/23/2017	01/27/2017	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1, 2, 3	02/13/2017	02/17/2017	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1, 2, 3	03/06/2017	03/10/2017	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
1, 2, 3	03/20/2017	03/24/2017	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
			PI&R - PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION AND RESOLUTION		5
1, 2	04/10/2017	04/14/2017	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	
1, 2	04/24/2017	04/28/2017	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	

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