



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

January 21, 2000

4EAD-OEA

Chief
Rules Review and Directives Branch
Division of Administrative Services
Mailstop T 6 D 59
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

RECEIVED
2000 JAN 28 AM 4: 26
RULES & DIR. BRANCH
US NRC

**RE: EPA Review and Comments on
Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants
Supplement 2 - Final Report
Oconee Nuclear Station (ONS) Units 1, 2, and 3 (NUREG 1437)
Oconee County, South Carolina
CEQ No. 990481**

Dear Sir/Madam:

Pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the subject Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement, Supplement 2. The document provides information to educate the public regarding general and project-specific environmental impacts and analysis procedures. We appreciate your consistency with the public review and disclosure aspects of the NEPA process. The above-referenced supplemental document is site-specific to the Oconee Nuclear Station; this document is tiered from Generic EIS for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants.

This EIS was prepared in response to an application submitted to the NRC by Duke Energy Corporation, the current licensee, to renew the operating licenses for Oconee Nuclear Station Units 1, 2, and 3 for an additional 20 years. Operating Licenses for Units 1 and 2 will expire in 2013, and for Unit 3 in 2014. License renewal would provide an option for power generation capability beyond the term of the current nuclear power plant operating license.

We continue to have environmental concerns about potential impacts of the project, particularly regarding offsite radiological impacts. Potential impacts should be discussed in more detail during the relicensing process.

C.001

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. If you have any questions or require technical assistance you may contact Ramona McConney of my staff at (404) 562-9615.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heinz Mueller". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "H".

Heinz J. Mueller, Chief
Office of Environmental Assessment