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

January 3, 2012

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

SUBJECT: DUKE ENERGY CAROLINA, LLC- OCONEE NUCLEAR STATION UNITS 1, 2,
AND 3 - NRC INSPECTION PROCEDURE 95001 SUPPLEMENTAL
INSPECTION REPORT 05000269/2011406, 05000270/2011406 AND
05000287/2011406

Dear Mr. Gillespie:

On December 8, 2011, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff completed a supplemental inspection pursuant to Inspection Procedure 95001, "Inspection for One or Two White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area", at your Oconee Nuclear Plant, Units 1, 2, and 3. The enclosed inspection report documents the inspection results which were discussed at the exit meeting on December 8, 2011, with you and other members of your staff.

As required by the NRC Reactor Oversight Process Action Matrix, this supplemental inspection was performed because a finding of White safety significance was identified in the first quarter of 2011. The violation was previously documented in NRC Inspection Report 05000269/2011202, 05000270/2011202 and 05000287/2011202, dated May 23, 2011. The NRC staff was informed on September 22, 2011, of your staff's readiness for this inspection.

The objectives of this supplemental inspection were to provide assurance that: (1) the root causes and the contributing causes for the risk-significant issues were understood; (2) the extent of condition and extent of cause of the issues were identified; and (3) corrective actions were or will be sufficient to address and preclude repetition of the root and contributing causes. The inspection consisted of examination of activities conducted under your license as they related to safety, compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations, and the conditions of your operating license.

The inspector determined that your staff performed a comprehensive evaluation of the White finding. Your staff's evaluation identified the primary root cause associated with the finding as inadequate evaluation of risks and consequences prior to making a change to the method used to monitor unattended underground pathways.

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Your staff also identified two contributing causes associated with the finding as: 1.) Following the development of Security Directive 24 - Evaluation of Security Related Issues, a changed management plan was not developed to ensure adequate training was provided; and 2.) A lack of clarity of definitive guidance information. [Oconee was the first in the industry to receive an NRC violation for their method of surveillance; no OE was available in the industry to compare.] The inspector determined that the root cause and corrective actions taken to prevent recurrence appear to be adequate.

The NRC determined that your proposed corrective actions are appropriate to resolve the deficiencies related to the Degraded Security Cornerstone. As such, the inspection objectives of IP 95001 have been satisfied. Therefore, security performance for Oconee Nuclear Station Units 1, 2, and 3 will be within the Licensee Response column of the NRC's security action matrix effective first quarter 2012.

In accordance with 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 Website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room). However, because of the security-related concerns contained in the enclosure, and in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390, a copy of this letter's enclosure will not be available for public inspection.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390(b)(1)(ii), the NRC is waiving the affidavit requirements for your response, if any. This practice will ensure that your response will not be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's document system, ADAMS. If Safeguards Information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, please provide the level of protection described in 10 CFR 73.22. Otherwise, mark your entire response "Security-Related Information-Withhold Under 10 CFR 2.390" and follow the instructions for withholding in 10 CFR 2.390(b)(1).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Binoy Desai, Chief
Plant Support Branch 2
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No.: 50-269, 50-270, 50-287
License No.: DPR-38, DPR-47, DPR-55

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/encl.: (See page 3)

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DEC

2

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cc w/encl.: (See page 3)

(*) See previous concurrence page

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(See page 4)

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X SUNSI REVIEW COMPLETE X FORM 665 ATTACHED

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DATE	12/19/11	01/03/12	12/24/11	12/21/11			
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cc w/Encl:

cc w/Inspection Summary:

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Letter to T. Preston Gillespie from Binoy Desai dated January 3, 2012.

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B. Westreich, NSIR (hard copy w/ encl)

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