October 1, 1999

Duke Energy Corporation
ATTN: Mr. G. R. Peterson
Site Vice President
Catawba Site
4800 Concord Road
York, SC 29745-9635

SUBJECT: NRC RETAKE EXAMINATION REPORT NOS. 50-413/99-302 AND 50-414/99-302

Dear Mr. Peterson :

On September 21-23, 1999, the NRC administered a retake of the administrative section of the operating examination to four employees of your company who had applied for licenses to operate the Catawba Nuclear Station. At the conclusion of the examination, the examiners discussed the examination and preliminary findings with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

A Simulation Facility Report is included in this report as Enclosure 2.

Two of the three Reactor Operators (ROs) and the one Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) who received the administrative section of the operating examination passed the retake examination, representing a 75 percent pass rate. The individual examination report should be reviewed to determine if adjustments to the training program, as well as individual remediation, are necessary.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (404) 562-4638.

Sincerely,

Original signed by Harold O. Christensen

Harold O. Christensen
Operator Licensing and
Human Performance Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos.: 50-413 and 50-414
License Nos.: NPF-35 and NPF-52

Enclosures: (See page 2)

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Enclosures: 1. Report Details
2. Simulation Facility Report

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DATE	9/24/99	9/30/99	9/30/99	9/ /99	9/ /99	9/ /99	9/ /99
COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY DOCUMENT NAME: G:\LA\CAT\99302RPT.WPD

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II

Docket Nos.:	50-413, 50-414
License Nos.:	NPF-35, NPF-52
Report No.:	50-413/99-302, 50-414/99-302
Licensee:	Duke Power Company
Facility:	Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 & 2
Location:	4800 Concord Road York, SC 29745-9635
Dates:	September 21-23, 1999
Examiners:	Richard S. Baldwin, Chief License Examiner
Approved by:	Harold O. Christensen, Chief, Operator Licensing and Human Performance Branch Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosure 1

Executive Summary

Catawba Nuclear Station Units 1 & 2
NRC Examination Report No. 50-413/99-302 and 50-414/99-302

During the period of September 21-23, 1999, an NRC examiner conducted an announced operator licensing initial re-take operating examination in accordance with the guidance of Examiner Standards, NUREG-1021, Revision 8. This examination implemented the operator licensing requirements of 10 CFR §55.45.

Three Reactor Operator (RO) candidates and one Senior Reactor Operator (SRO) candidate received a re-take operating test. The examination was administered by an NRC operator licensing examiner. The operating test was administered by the NRC on September 21-23, 1999.

Operations

- The submitted retake operating test met the requirements of NUREG-1021. (Section O5.1)
- Two of the three RO and the one SRO candidates passed the examination. (Section O5.1)
- Overall performance on the retake operating test was satisfactory. (Section O5.1)
- Candidate Pass/Fail

	SRO	RO	Total	Percent
Pass	1	2	3	75
Fail	0	1	1	25

Report Details

Summary of Plant Status

During the period of the examinations Unit 1 and Unit 2 were at 100 percent power.

I. Operations

O5 Operator Training and Qualifications

O5.1 Initial Licensing Examinations

a. Scope

An NRC examiner conducted regular, announced operator licensing initial retake operating examination during September 21-23, 1999. The NRC examiner administered an examination developed by the licensee's training department, under the requirements of an NRC security agreement, in accordance with the guidelines of the Examiner Standards (ES), NUREG-1021, Revision 8. Three Reactor Operator (RO) applicants and one Senior Reactor Operator upgrade (SRO(U)) applicant received retake operating examinations.

b. Observations and Findings

The licensee developed one administrative topic RO/SRO Job Performance Measure (JPM) set, for use during this examination. All materials were submitted to the NRC on schedule. NRC examiners reviewed, modified as necessary, and approved the examination prior to administration. The NRC examiner conducted an on-site preparation visit during the examination week, to validate examination materials and familiarize himself with the details required for examination administration.

Operating Test Development

The NRC reviewed the RO/SRO administrative topic area JPM set submitted by the facility. The examiner found the JPMs were developed at the appropriate level as described in NUREG-1021. There was one JPM that was considered a direct look up and considered non-discriminatory. This JPM was changed to provide a better discriminatory tool. The NRC noted that the quality of the licensee's proposed examination was satisfactory.

Examination Results

The review of the operating examination revealed that two of the three RO candidates and the SRO candidate passed the examination. The examiner identified one weakness in candidate performance during the administration of the examination. Details of the weakness are described in the individual's examination report, Form-303-1, "Operator Licensing Examination Report." Copies of the evaluation were forwarded under separate cover to the training manager in order to enable the licensee to evaluate the weakness

and provide appropriate remedial training for those operators, as necessary. In, general the weakness concerned the use of a conversion factor when calculating radiation levels due to airborne contamination.

c. Conclusion

The submitted retake operating test met the requirements of NUREG-1021. Two of the three RO and the one SRO candidates passed the examination. The overall performance of the candidates on the retake operating test was satisfactory.

Management Meetings

X1. Exit Meeting Summary

At the conclusion of the site visit, the examiner met with representatives of the plant staff listed on the following page to discuss the results of the examinations and other issues. No proprietary material was provided.

PARTIAL LIST OF PERSONS CONTACTED

Licensee:

G. Gilbert,	Reg Compliance Manager
M. Glover,	OPS Superintendent
R. Kimray,	OPS Training
A. Lindsay,	Training Manager
G. Peterson,	Vice President
M. Purser,	Reg Compliance
J. Teofilak,	OPS Training Manager
S. Tripi,	OPS Training

NRC:

D. Roberts, Senior Resident Inspector, Catawba

ITEMS OPENED, CLOSED, AND DISCUSSED

Opened:

None

Closed:

None

Discussed:

None

SIMULATION FACILITY REPORT

Facility Licensee: Duke Power - Catawba Nuclear Station Units 1 & 2

Facility Docket Nos.: 50-413 and 50-414

Operating Tests Administered on: September 21- 23, 1999

This form is to be used only to report observations. These observations do not constitute audit or inspection findings and are not, without further verification and review, indicative of noncompliance with 10 CFR 55.45(b). These observations do not affect NRC certification or approval of the simulation facility other than to provide information that may be used in future evaluations. No licensee action is required in response to these observations.

While conducting the simulator portion of the operating tests, the following items were observed:

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
There were no simulator fidelity problems.	

Enclosure 2