

May 16, 2000

Mr. Bill Holman, Secretary
North Carolina Department of Environmental
and Natural Resources
1601 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1601

Dear Mr. Holman:

Thank you for your letter of March 14, 2000, to Samuel J. Collins, the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, expressing appreciation for the public meeting the NRC staff held in Raleigh, North Carolina on February 28, 2000. As you know, the purpose of the meeting was to provide the status of the NRC's review of Carolina Power & Light Company's December 23, 1998, amendment application to expand the spent fuel storage capacity at the Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 1, by placing existing fuel pools C and D in service. During the meeting, the NRC staff also presented an overview of the mission and role of the NRC, the license amendment review and hearing process, and provided an opportunity for public comments and questions. The NRC staff issued a summary of the meeting on April 19, 2000.

The NRC is committed to making public participation in the regulatory process more accessible, to listening to the public's concerns, and to involving our stakeholders more fully in the regulatory process. Building and maintaining public trust is critical to carrying out the NRC's mission of ensuring adequate protection of public health and safety and the environment in the use of nuclear power. Public meetings, such as the one held on February 28, 2000, are an effective means to accomplish this.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John A. Zwolinski, Director
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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and Natural Resources
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Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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