



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET SW SUITE 23T85
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931**

December 20, 2000
TRIP REPORT

MEMORANDUM TO: DEPUTY REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

FROM: ROBERT HAAG

SUBJECT: REPORT ON TRIP TO McGUIRE AND CATAWBA

DATE(S) OF VISIT: December 11-13, 2000

PURPOSE OF VISIT: Quarterly Branch Chief Visit

INSPECTOR(S) OBSERVED: Mike Franovich and Rani Franovich

SENIOR LICENSEE PERSON CONTACTED: H. Barron, D. Dolan, G. Peterson,
R. Jones, P. Herran, and R. Sweigart.

STRENGTHS OR WEAKNESSES NOTED WITH PLANT: Overall condition of Catawba was very good. Small number of contaminated areas. At all branch 5 plants the charging pump skids are contaminated, but at Catawba they were clean. Only toured the control room, EDGs, and SSF at McGuire due to resident availability considerations.

OTHER COMMENTS: H. Barron mentioned a concern he has with the agency's implementation and views on protected activity status for employees and Ol's view of adverse employer actions which are impacting licensees from managing their staffs. Assigning an SRO to the work control office when he had been in the CR was an example of questionable adverse employer action. He planned to discuss this during Commissioner Merrifield's visit. Also discussed with B. Dolan was the denied security NCV and Duke's regret that there was no communication with the NRC and Duke between the time of the exit and the report being issued. This issue was exited as a potential NCV, however, Duke was unclear how one piece of equipment failing would result in a violation and they desired more information from the NRC.

G. Peterson questioned about their N+1 resident status (I mentioned that their performance would be considered in future staffing decisions). Also discussed was their equipment unavailability due to SW maintenance and possible white PIs. Duke's effort with NEI and the NRC's feedback question dealing with this subject were discussed. I stated that I would call Don Hickman and obtain the current review status.

cc: Regional Administrator
Technical Division Directors
Cognizant Senior Resident Inspector
Cognizant NRR Project Manager

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