Docket No.: 50-413

October 6, 1986

Mr. H. B. Tucker, Vice President
Nuclear Production Department
Duke Power Company
422 South Church Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28242

Dear Mr. Tucker:

Subject: Issuance of Amendment No. 15 to Facility Operating License NPF-35
Catawba Nuclear Station, Unit 1

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 15 to Facility Operating License NPF-35 for the Catawba Nuclear Station, Unit 1. This amendment is in response to your letter dated June 6, 1986.

The amendment updates and changes a license condition to allow an extension of time for the resolution of the accumulator tank instrumentation issue. The amendment is effective as of its date of issuance.

A copy of the related safety evaluation supporting Amendment No. 15 to Facility Operating License NPF-35 is enclosed.

Notice of issuance will be included in the Commission's next bi-weekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,

/S/

Kahtan Jabbour, Project Manager
PWR Project Directorate #4
Division of PWR Licensing-A

Enclosures:
1. Amendment No. 15 to NPF-35
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl:
See next page

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PWR#4:DPWR-A	PWR#4/DPWR-A	PWR#4/DPWR-A
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Mr. H. B. Tucker
Duke Power Company

Catawba Nuclear Station

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

DUKE POWER COMPANY

NORTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION

SALUDA RIVER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

DOCKET NO. 50-413

CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 15
License No. NPF-35

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:

   A. The application for amendment to the Catawba Nuclear Station, Unit 1 (the facility) Facility Operating License No. NPF-35 filed by the Duke Power Company acting for itself, North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation and Saluda River Electric Cooperative, Inc., (licensees) dated June 6, 1986, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's regulations as set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;

   B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, as amended, the provisions of the Act, and the regulations of the Commission;

   C. There is reasonable assurance: (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;

   D. The issuance of this license amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public;

   E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

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2. Accordingly, Facility Operating License No. NPF-35 is hereby changed as follows:

   A. Change paragraph 2.C.(12)(a) to read as follows:

      Regulatory Guide 1.97, Revision 2, Compliance (Section 7.5.2, SSER #4, SSER #5)

      Prior to startup following the third refueling outage, Duke Power Company shall provide qualified accumulator discharge instrumentation.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Kahtan Jabbour, Project Manager
PWR Project Directorate No. 4
Division of PWR Licensing-A

Date of Issuance: October 6, 1986

PWR#4:DPWR-A	PWR#4/DPWR-A	OGC-Beth	PWR#4/DPWR-A
MDuncan/mac	KJabbour	JOHNSON	BJYoungblood
09/22/86	09/22/86	09/25/85	10/6/86

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 15TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-35

CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1

DUKE POWER COMPANY, ET AL.

INTRODUCTION

By letter dated June 6, 1986, Duke Power Company, et al., (the licensee) proposed that License Condition 2.C.(12)(a) of Facility Operating License NPF-35 be amended to (1) allow an extension of time for the resolution of the accumulator tank instrumentation issue and (2) update License Condition 2.C.(12)(a) to make it consistent with License Condition 2.C.(8)(a) of Catawba Unit 2 Facility Operating License, NPF-52, issued on May 15, 1986, because the same issue is applicable to both Units. The extension of time would be for two complete cycles of operation.

EVALUATION

In NPF-35 issued on January 17, 1985, license condition 2.C.(12)(a) regarding compliance with Regulatory Guide 1.97, Revision 2, stated that:

> "Prior to startup following the first refueling outage, Duke Power Company shall implement modifications (installation or upgrade) for those items listed below consistent with the guidance of Regulatory Guide 1.97, Revision 2 unless prior approval of an alternate design of these items is granted by the NRC staff. These items, as listed in Duke Power Company's letter of September 26, 1983, are: (a) reactor coolant system cold leg water temperature, (b) containment sump water level, (c) residual heat removal heat exchanger outlet temperature, (d) accumulator tank level and pressure, (e) steam generator pressure, (f) containment sump water temperature, (g) chemical and volume control system makeup flow and letdown flow, (h) emergency ventilation damper position, (i) area radiation, and (j) plant airborne and area radiation."

The above issue is related to Generic Letter 82-33, Supplement 1 to NUREG-0737, regarding the Requirements for Emergency Response Capabilities. It was also discussed in Section 7.5.2 of Supplement 4 to the Catawba Safety Evaluation Report (SER). Subsequent licensee submittals and staff reviews, as documented in Supplement 5 to the Catawba SER issued in February 1986, resolved all the above items except for item (d). Furthermore, the staff slightly modified that item to require the licensee to designate either level or pressure as the key variable to be upgraded. This variable is currently under additional staff review and further discussion with the licensee is expected. Assuming that the licensee plans to upgrade either the accumulator level or pressure instrumentation, it is estimated that approximately 23 months lead time would be required for implementation during a refueling outage. This would coincide with the end of the cycle 3 refueling outage currently scheduled to begin in January 1989.

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The primary function of the accumulator pressure or level instrumentation is to monitor the pre-accident status of the accumulators to assure that the passive safety system is in a ready state to serve its safety function. The licensee stated that the accumulator tank level or pressure are not referenced in any emergency procedure covering design basis events which may cause a harsh environment. No operator actions in these procedures are based on accumulator indications. Therefore, the staff concludes that extension of the date for upgrading the accumulator pressure or level instrumentation until startup following the third refueling outage is acceptable.

Based on the above discussion, the modified License Condition 2.C.(12)(a) would state that:

> "Prior to startup following the third refueling outage, Duke Power Company shall provide qualified accumulator discharge instrumentation."

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment involves a change in use of facility components located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20 and changes in surveillance requirements. The staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, and there have been no public comments on such finding. Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR Section 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

CONCLUSION

The Commission made a proposed determination that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration which was published in the Federal Register (51 FR 28996) on August 13, 1986, and consulted with the state of South Carolina. No public comments were received, and the state of South Carolina did not have any comments.

We have concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, and (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributors: Kahtan Jabbour, PWR#4/DPWR-A
James Lazevnick, EICSB/DPWR-A

Dated: October 6, 1986

October 6, 1986

AMENDMENT NO. 15 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-35 -
CATAWBA NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT 1

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