

Docket Nos. 50-413
50-414

JUL 07 1989

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 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (TACS 65591/65592)

Enclosed for your information is a copy of an "Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact" related to your June 12, 1987, request for amendments to Facility Operating Licenses NPF-35 and NPF-52 for the Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2. The proposed amendments would add operability and surveillance requirements for radioactive liquid effluent monitoring instrumentation for the turbine building sump. The notice has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

15/
Kahtan N. Jabbour, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
as stated

cc w/encl:
See next page

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Mr. H. B. Tucker
Duke Power Company

Catawba Nuclear Station

CC:

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONDUKE POWER COMPANY, et al.DOCKET NOS. 50-413 AND 50-414ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OFNO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of amendments to Duke Power Company, et al., (the licensee) for the Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2, located in York County, South Carolina.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action: The proposed amendments would add operability and surveillance requirements for radioactive liquid effluent monitoring instrumentation for the turbine building sump. These requirements would provide a radioactive liquid waste sampling and analysis program for the demineralized sump water and its surveillance by radiation monitor EMF-31 before discharge into the Low Pressure Service Water System.

The Radwaste Treatment System (capacity 16,000 to 18,000 gallons per day) will remain the primary treatment system for processing highly contaminated wastes. The licensee proposes to install portable equipment to demineralize the larger volumes of slightly radioactive wastewater, 72,000 gallons per day or more, which can result from primary-to-secondary leaks in the steam generators. The turbine building sump also receives wastewater with very low levels of radioactivity from other sources such as floor drains and the auxiliary building drain sump. The treated wastewater would be discharged through radiation monitor EMF-31 into the effluent from the Low Pressure Service Water System.

The Need for the Proposed Action: Primary to secondary leaks can develop through repairable defects in the steam generators and into the normally non-radioactive secondary side. Such leaks would be repaired as they occur, but require continued unit operation with leakage until the leak can be fully identified and characterized. When these leaks occur, the turbine building sump can become radioactively contaminated. The quality and quantity of this water may not be amenable to treatment in the Radwaste Treatment System because of the high volume or by the Conventional Waste Water Treatment System because of its inability to remove contaminants.

Therefore, the licensee plans to install portable equipment to process the slightly radioactive water. The proposed Technical Specifications would add operability and surveillance requirements for the processing equipment and instrumentation.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action: The decision of whether the wastewater would be routed to the Radwaste Treatment System, the Conventional Wastewater Treatment System or the Low Pressure Service Water System would depend on the level of activity, anticipated volumes of sump effluent, anticipated volumes of liquid waste requiring processing through radwaste, and the need to process normal nonradioactive wastes.

Technical Specification 3/4.11.1, Table 4.11-1, already identifies the Conventional Wastewater Treatment System as a radioactive release point. All releases through this system and the Low Pressure Service Water System will be made in accordance with the Technical Specifications and will not result in unacceptable concentrations of radioactive effluents released offsite. Neither will there be any increased risk to public health and safety.

The proposed amendments will not have any impact on the environment that has not already been reviewed and approved. Furthermore, they will not affect the current accident analysis assumptions and will not cause an increase in radiological or non-radiological plant effluents, or occupational exposures, over what was previously considered.

Accordingly, Commission findings in the Final Environmental Statement Related to Operation of Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2, dated January 1983 (NUREG-0921) regarding radiological and non-radiological releases from the plant during normal operation or after accidents are not adversely altered by this action.

Alternative to the Proposed Action: Since we have concluded that the environmental effects of the proposed action are negligible, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested amendments. That alternative, in effect, is the same as the "no action" alternative. That alternative would reduce environmental impacts of plant operation but would result in increased personnel radiation exposure during plant life.

Alternative Use of Resources: This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in connection with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Final Environmental Statement dated January 1983 (NUREG-0921) related to this facility.

Agencies and Persons Consulted: The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request of June 12, 1987, as supplemented July 9, 1987, January 8, 1988, and May 3, 1989. The NRC staff did not consult other agencies or persons.

Finding of No Significant Impact: The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed license amendments.

Based upon this environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant adverse effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the request for amendments dated June 12, 1987, and its supplements dated July 9, 1987, January 8, 1988, and May 3, 1989; and the Final Environmental Statement related to operation of Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2 (NUREG-0921) dated January 1983, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and the York County Library, 138 East Black Street, Rock Hill, South Carolina 29730.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 7th day of July, 1989

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Lawrence P. Crocker, Acting Director
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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For further details with respect to this action, see the request for amendments dated June 12, 1987, and its supplements dated July 9, 1987, January 8, 1988, and May 3, 1989; and the Final Environmental Statement related to operation of Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2 (NUREG-0921) dated January 1983, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and the York County Library, 138 East Black Street, Rock Hill, South Carolina 29730.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this *7th* day of *July*, 1989
FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

15/
Lawrence P. Crocker, Acting Director
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

*See previous concurrence

LA:PDII-3
MRood*
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PM:PDII-3
KJabbour*
06/21/89

OGC/WF
BMBordenick*
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