

March 9, 1995

Mr. David L. Rehn
Vice President, Catawba Site
Duke Power Company
4800 Concord Road
York, SC 29745

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SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENTS - CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2,
CONTAINMENT INTEGRATED LEAK RATE TEST (TAC NO. M90625)

Dear Mr. Rehn:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 129 to Facility Operating License NPF-35 and Amendment No. 123 to Facility Operating License NPF-52 for the Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2. The amendments consist of changes to the Technical Specifications (TS) in response to your application dated October 18, 1994, as supplemented February 7, 1995.

The amendments revise the frequency for conducting the Catawba Unit 1 Integrated Leak Rate Test (ILRT) from a nominal frequency of once per 40 months to once per 60 months. This also involves the granting of an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J, which is addressed by separate correspondence.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. A Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's biweekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Robert E. Martin, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-413 and 50-414

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 129 to NPF-35
2. Amendment No. 123 to NPF-52
3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

*see previous concurrence

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 9, 1995

Mr. David L. Rehn
Vice President, Catawba Site
Duke Power Company
4800 Concord Road
York, SC 29745

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert E. Martin".

Robert E. Martin, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-413 and 50-414

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1. Amendment No. 129 to NPF-35
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3. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

Mr. David L. Rehn
Duke Power Company

cc:

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Raleigh, North Carolina 27611

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Regional Administrator, Region II
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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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. 129
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 October 18, 1994, as supplemented February 7, 1995, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations as set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and 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 amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - 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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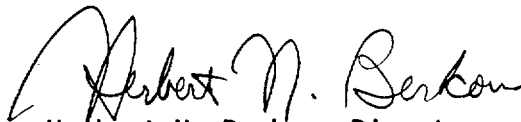
2. Accordingly, the license is hereby amended by page changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and Paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-35 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 129 , and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, both of which are attached hereto, are hereby incorporated into this license. Duke Power Company shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days from the date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Herbert N. Berkow, Director
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:
Technical Specification
Changes

Date of Issuance: March 9, 1995



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

DUKE POWER COMPANY
NORTH CAROLINA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY NO. 1
PIEDMONT MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY
DOCKET NO. 50-414
CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 2
AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 123
License No. NPF-52

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment to the Catawba Nuclear Station, Unit 2 (the facility) Facility Operating License No. NPF-52 filed by the Duke Power Company, acting for itself, North Carolina Municipal Power Agency No. 1 and Piedmont Municipal Power Agency (licensees), dated October 18, 1994, as supplemented February 7, 1995, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations as set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and 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 amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - 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.

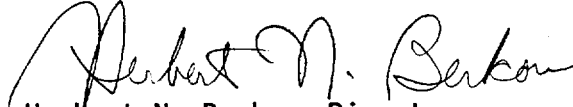
2. Accordingly, the license is hereby amended by page changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and Paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-52 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 123 , and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, both of which are attached hereto, are hereby incorporated into this license. Duke Power Company shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. This license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days from the date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Herbert N. Berkow, Director
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:
Technical Specification
Changes

Date of Issuance: March 9 , 1995

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 129

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-35

DOCKET NO. 50-413

AND

TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 123

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-52

DOCKET NO. 50-414

Replace the following page of the Appendix "A" Technical Specifications with the enclosed page. The revised page is identified by Amendment number and contains vertical lines indicating the areas of change.

Remove Page

3/4 6-3

Insert Page

3/4 6-3

CONTAINMENT SYSTEMS

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS (Continued)

- a. Three Type A tests (Overall Integrated Containment Leakage Rate) shall be conducted at 40 ± 10 month intervals during shutdown at either P_a , 14.68 psig, or (Unit 1) at P_t , 7.34 psig, during each 10-year service period.* The third test of each set shall be conducted during the shutdown for the 10-year plant inservice inspection;
- b. If any periodic Type A test fails to meet either $0.75 L_a$ or (Unit 1) $0.75 L_t$, the test schedule for subsequent Type A tests shall be reviewed and approved by the Commission. If two consecutive Type A tests fail to meet either $0.75 L_a$ or (Unit 1) $0.75 L_t$, a Type A test shall be performed at least every 18 months until two consecutive Type A tests meet either $0.75 L_a$ or (Unit 1) $0.75 L_t$ at which time the above test schedule may be resumed;
- c. The accuracy of each Type A test shall be verified by a supplemental test which:
 - 1) Confirms the accuracy of the test by verifying that the supplemental test result, L_c , minus the sum of the Type A and the superimposed leak, L_o , is equal to or less than $0.25 L_a$ or (Unit 1) $0.25 L_t$;
 - 2) Has a duration sufficient to establish accurately the change in leakage rate between the Type A test and the supplemental test; and
 - 3) Requires that the rate at which gas is injected into the containment or bled from the containment during the supplemental test is between $0.75 L_a$ and $1.25 L_a$ or (Unit 1) $0.75 L_t$ and $1.25 L_t$.
- d. Type B and C tests shall be conducted with gas at a pressure not less than P_a , 14.68 psig, at intervals no greater than 24 months except for tests involving:
 - 1) Air locks,
 - 2) Purge supply and exhaust isolation valves with resilient material seals, and
 - 3) Dual-ply bellows assemblies on containment penetrations between the containment building and the annulus.

* For Catawba Unit 1, a one-time change is granted to extend this interval between the second test (performed 3/91) and the third test to 60 ± 10 months. Also, this test will not be performed during the 10-year ISI refueling outage. This represents an exemption to 10 CFR 50, Appendix J.



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 129 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-35
AND AMENDMENT NO. 123 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-52
DUKE POWER COMPANY, ET AL.
CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2
DOCKET NOS. 50-413 AND 50-414

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated October 18, 1994, as supplemented February 7, 1995, Duke Power Company, et al. (the licensee), submitted a request for changes to the Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2, Technical Specification (TS) Section 4.6.1.2.a. The requested changes would revise the frequency for conducting the Catawba Unit 1 Integrated Leak Rate Test (ILRT) from a nominal frequency of once per 40 months to once per 60 months on a one-time basis for the interval between the second and third Type A tests. This also involves the granting of an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J, which is addressed by separate correspondence. The February 7, 1995, letter provided clarifying information that did not change the scope of the October 18, 1994, application and the initial proposed no significant hazards consideration determination.

2.0 EVALUATION

The licensee's letters of October 18, 1994, and February 7, 1995, requested temporary relief from the requirement to perform a set of three Type A tests at approximately equal intervals during each 10-year service period of the primary containment. The requested change would permit a one-time interval extension of the third Type A test by approximately 16 months (from the 1995 refueling outage, which began on February 11, 1995, to the end-of-cycle 9 (EOC-9) refueling outage, currently scheduled for June 1996) and would permit the third Type A test of the second 10-year inservice inspection period to not correspond with the end of the current American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (ASME Code) inservice inspection interval.

Technical Specification 3.6.1.2 paraphrases the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J concerning reactor containment leak rate testing. In particular, TS 3.6.1.2 summarizes the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix J, paragraph III.D.1(a), periodic retest schedule for the Type A test. By separate correspondence, the licensee obtained an exemption from

the Appendix J, Type A test schedule for Catawba, Unit 1, from the end-of-cycle 8 until the end-of-cycle 9. This TS change removes an obsolete note, conforms the Catawba Unit 1 TS to reflect the exemption to the Appendix J testing, and maintains the current form of the TS for Catawba, Unit 2. Based on the above, the staff finds the change to TS 3.6.1.2(a) proposed by the licensee to be acceptable.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the South Carolina State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendments. The State official had no comments.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22, 51.23, and 51.35, an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact was published in the Federal Register on March 1, 1995 (60 FR 11125).

Accordingly, based on the Environmental Assessment, the Commission has determined that issuance of this amendment will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has 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, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendments will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributors: R. Lobel
J. Pulsipher
R. Martin

Date: March 9, 1995