

September 28, 1998

Mr. G. R. Peterson
Site Vice President
Catawba Nuclear Station
Duke Energy Corporation
4800 Concord Road
York, South Carolina 29745-9635

SUBJECT: ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT - CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 2
(TAC NO. MA2462)

Dear Mr. Peterson:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 164 to Facility Operating License NPF-52 for the Catawba Nuclear Station, Unit 2, in response to your application dated August 6, 1998. An identical amendment was previously issued to Unit 1 under exigent circumstances. While you also requested that the Unit 2 amendment be issued under exigent circumstances, the staff determined that such circumstances did not exist for Unit 2.

The amendment deletes Surveillance Requirement 4.8.1.1.2.i.2, regarding diesel fuel oil system pressure testing, from the Technical Specifications on the basis that the staff had previously approved alternative surveillance based on Code Case N-498-1 of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

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:

Peter S. Tam, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate II-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-414

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 164 to NPF-52
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

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NAME	P.TAM	L.BERRY	E.MURPHY		H.BERKOW
DATE	9/4/98	9/28/98	8/28/98	9/22/98	9/28/98
COPY	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

* See concurrence on
exigent amendment on Unit 1

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CP-1

Catawba Nuclear Station

cc:

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

September 28, 1998

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Site Vice President
Catawba Nuclear Station
Duke Energy Corporation
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York, South Carolina 29745-9635

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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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Peter S. Tam". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping "P" and "T".

Peter S. Tam, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate II-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-414

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 164 to NPF-52
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

Catawba Nuclear Station

cc:

Mr. T. Richard Puryear
Owners Group (NCEMC)
Duke Energy Corporation
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Richard M. Fry, Director
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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION

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. 164
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 Energy Corporation, acting for itself, North Carolina Municipal Power Agency No. 1 and Piedmont Municipal Power Agency (licensees), dated August 6, 1998, 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:

(2) Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 164 , which are attached hereto, are hereby incorporated into this license. Duke Energy Corporation shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

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-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:
Technical Specification
Changes

Date of Issuance: September 28, 1998

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 164

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

3/4 8-9

Insert

3/4 8-9

ELECTRICAL POWER SYSTEMS

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS (Continued)

i. At least once per 10 years by:

- 1) Draining each fuel oil storage tank, removing the accumulated sediment and cleaning the tank using a sodium hypochlorite solution or its equivalent, and
- 2) Deleted.
- 3) Performing tank wall thickness measurements. The resulting data shall be evaluated and any abnormal degradation will be justified or corrected. Any abnormal degradation will be documented in a report to the Commission.

4.8.1.1.3 Reports - (Not Used)

4.8.1.1.4 Diesel Generator Batteries - Each diesel generator 125-volt battery bank and charger shall be demonstrated OPERABLE:

a. At least once per 7 days by verifying that:

- 1) The electrolyte level of each battery is at or above the low mark and at or below the high mark,
- 2) The overall battery voltage is greater than or equal to 125 volts on float charge, and
- 3) The individual cell voltage is greater than or equal to 1.36 volts on float charge.*

b. At least once per 92 days and within 7 days after a battery discharge with battery terminal voltage below 110 volts, or battery overcharge with battery terminal voltage above 150 volts, by verifying that:

- 1) There is no visible corrosion at either terminals or connectors, and
- 2) The average electrolyte temperature of six connected cells is above 60°F.

*Two different cells shall be tested each month.



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 164 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NPF-52

DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION, ET AL.

CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 2

DOCKET NO. 50-414

1.0 INTRODUCTION

On August 6, 1998, Duke Energy Corporation, et al. (DEC), determined that Surveillance Requirement (SR) 4.8.1.1.2.i.2 of the Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2, Technical Specifications (TS) was not being met at Unit 1. SR 4.8.1.1.2.i.2 requires the performance, every 10 years, of a pressure test of those portions of the diesel fuel oil system, associated with the emergency diesel generators (EDGs), designed to Section III, subsection ND of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (Code) at a test pressure equal to 110 percent of the system design pressure.

By letter dated August 6, 1998, DEC requested that the NRC exercise discretion not to enforce compliance with the actions required by SR 4.8.1.1.2.i.2. The letter documented information previously discussed with the staff in a telephone conversation on August 6, 1998. As a result of its review, the staff verbally granted enforcement discretion on August 6, 1998, to Unit 1 and affirmed that decision by a Notice of Enforcement Discretion (NOED) letter dated August 7, 1998 (98-6-013).

By separate letter dated August 6, 1998, DEC submitted a request for amendments, on an exigent basis, to delete SR 4.8.1.1.2.i.2 from the TS of Units 1 and 2. The staff had, thus, issued an amendment to the Unit 1 TS under exigent circumstances, but declined to do the same for the Unit 2 TS. The staff's evaluation of this amendment request is for Unit 2 only and is discussed herein.

2.0 DISCUSSION AND EVALUATION

The EDG fuel oil system provides for the storage of a 7-day supply of fuel oil for each EDG and supplies the fuel oil to the engine when the EDG is needed. Major components in the fuel oil system include the fuel oil storage tanks, the fuel oil day tank, pumps, valves, filters, strainers, and piping. SR 4.8.1.1.2.i.2 requires the performance, every 10 years, of a pressure test of those portions of the diesel fuel oil system, associated with the EDGs, designed to Section III, subsection ND of the ASME Code at a test pressure equal to 110 percent of the system design pressure.

DEC, however, had conducted the surveillance at Unit 1, and planned to conduct the surveillance at Unit 2, in accordance with ASME Section XI, Code Case N-498-1, which was granted for use at Catawba Units 1 and 2 by the NRC in its letter dated February 13, 1995. This relief from ASME Code requirements, in Code Case N-498-1, permits the use of VT-2 visual examination in conjunction with a system pressure test on Class 3 systems (i.e. including the diesel fuel oil system) in lieu of hydrostatic testing. The relief will expire when Code Case N-498-1, with provisions limiting its application, is published in a future revision of Regulatory Guide 1.147. TS 4.0.5 requires that "Inservice Inspection of ASME Code Class 1, 2, and 3 components...shall be performed in accordance with Section XI of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code and applicable Addenda as required by 10 CFR Part 50, Section 50.55a(g), except where specific written relief has been granted by the Commission pursuant to 10 CFR Part 50, Section 50.55a(g)(6)(i)." The approval to use Code Case N-498-1 is one of the reliefs granted by the staff.

Given application of Code Case N-481-1 to the diesel fuel oil system, hydrostatic testing of the system to the requirements in SR 4.8.1.1.2.i.2 is unnecessary. Accordingly, DEC's proposal to delete SR 4.8.1.1.2.i.2 from the TS is acceptable because a staff-approved diesel fuel oil system surveillance procedure (Code Case N-498-1) will continue to be used. Surveillance requirements for nuclear plant systems and components are specified by 10 CFR 50.36(c)(3). With the deletion of SR 4.8.1.1.2.i.2, 10 CFR 50.36(c)(3) will continue to be met at Catawba Unit 2 since TS 4.0.5 will continue to ensure that the necessary quality of the diesel fuel oil system is maintained, that facility operation will be within safety limits, and that the limiting conditions for operation will be met.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

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

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment changes surveillance requirements. The NRC staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, 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 radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (63 FR 43962 dated August 17, 1998). Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 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.

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 amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributors: Donald Naujock
Peter S. Tam

Date: September 28, 1998