

Docket No.: 50-413⁴¹⁴

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

Dear Mr. Tucker:

Enclosed for your information is a "Notice of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact" related to your May 5, 1986, request for exemption from the requirements of Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50 for Type B and C tests on containment penetrations and isolation valves for Catawba Nuclear Station, Unit 1. The notice has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

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

8607030343 860624
PDR ADDCK 05000414
P PDR

Enclosure: As stated

cc: See next page

DISTRIBUTION:

- Docket File
- NRC PDR
- Local PDR
- PRC System
- NSIC
- PWR#4 Rdg
- MDuncan
- KJabbour
- BJYoungblood
- OELD
- ACRS (10)
- JPartlow
- BGrimes
- EJordan
- NThompson

PWR#4/DPWR-A
MDuncan/mac
06/23/86

KNT
PWR#4/DPWR-A
KJabbour
06/23/86

[Signature]
PWR#4/DPWR-A
BJYoungblood
06/23/86

Mr. H. B. Tucker
Duke Power Company

Catawba Nuclear Station

cc:
William L. Porter, Esq.
Duke Power Company
P.O. Box 33189
Charlotte, North Carolina 28242

North Carolina Electric Membership
Corp.
3333 North Boulevard
P.O. Box 27306
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611

J. Michael McGarry, III, Esq.
Bishop, Liberman, Cook, Purcell
and Reynolds
1200 Seventeenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

Saluda River Electric Cooperative,
Inc.
P.O. Box 929
Laurens, South Carolina 29360

North Carolina MPA-1
Suite 600
3100 Smoketree Ct.
P.O. Box 29513
Raleigh, North Carolina 27626-0513

Senior Resident Inspector
Route 2, Box 179N
York, South Carolina 29745

Mr. C. D. Markham
Power Systems Division
Westinghouse Electric Corp.
P.O. Box 355
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15230

Regional Administrator, Region II
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission,
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

NUS Corporation
2536 Countryside Boulevard
Clearwater, Florida 33515

Mr. Heyward G. Shealy, Chief
Bureau of Radiological Health
South Carolina Department of Health
and Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

County Manager of York County
York County Courthouse
York South Carolina 29745

Karen E. Long
Assistant Attorney General
N.C. Department of Justice
P.O. Box 629
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602

Richard P. Wilson, Esq.
Assistant Attorney General
S.C. Attorney General's Office
P.O. Box 11549
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Spence Perry, Esquire
Associate General Counsel
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Room 840
500 C Street
Washington, D. C. 20472

Piedmont Municipal Power Agency
100 Memorial Drive
Greer, South Carolina 29651

Mark S. Calvert, Esq.
Bishop, Liberman, Cook,
Purcell & Reynolds
1200 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

Mr. Michael Hirsch
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Office of the General Counsel
Room 840
500 C Street, S.W.
Washington, D. C. 20472

Brian P. Cassidy, Regional Counsel
Federal Emergency Management Agency,
Region I
J. W. McCormach POCH
Boston, Massachusetts 02109

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
DUKE POWER COMPANY
NORTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION
SALUDA RIVER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
DOCKET NO. 50-413
NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF
NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of a partial exemption from the requirements of Appendix J to 10 CFR Part 50 to the Duke Power Company, North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation and Saluda River Electric Cooperative, Inc. (the licensee) for the Catawba Nuclear Station, Unit 1, located at the licensee's site in York County, South Carolina.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action: The exemption would allow for a six-week extension for the performance of Type B tests on all 91 containment electrical penetrations and 9 containment mechanical penetrations, and Type C tests on 14 containment isolation valves until September 28, 1986. Sections III.D.2 and III.D.3 of Appendix J require that Type B and C tests be performed during each reactor shutdown for refueling but in no case at intervals greater than 2 years. The current Type B and C test due dates range between August 19 and August 22, 1986, for the affected penetrations and valves. The extension would allow the licensee to take the station off line at a time consistent with system need for power rather than forcing a station shutdown

8607030350 860624
 PDR ADOCK 05000414
 P PDR

in August when the distribution system's need for power is high due to the planned outage of other system power plants. The proposed exemption is in accordance with the licensee's request dated May 5, 1986, and its supplements dated May 9, 1986, and June 13, 1986.

The Need for the Proposed Action: The proposed exemption is needed to permit the licensee to perform the Type B and C tests on containment penetrations and isolation valves at a time consistent with the distribution system's need for power.

Environmental Impact of the Proposed Actions: The proposed exemption grants a six-week extension for the performance of Type B and C local leak rate tests on containment penetrations and containment isolation valves. With respect to this exemption from Appendix J, the increment of environmental impact is related solely to the potential increased probability of containment leakage following an accident involving a radiological release. This could lead to higher offsite and control room doses. However, this potential increase is not significant because: (1) the extension is for a short period, i.e. six weeks, (2) these penetrations and valves all yielded successful test results when they were tested in the August 19 and 22, 1984, time frame, (3) this facility was issued a low power license on December 6, 1984, and a full power license on January 17, 1985. Thus, these penetrations and valves will, with the proposed extension, have been exposed to their operating environment for no more than 22 months compared to the nominal two year surveillance interval permitted by Appendix J. Accordingly, the Commission finds that the increased probability of containment leakage associated with the proposed extension is insignificant and that no measurable impact would result from the proposed extension.

Alternative to the Proposed Action: Because the staff has concluded that there is no measurable impact associated with the proposed exemption, any alternatives to these exemptions would not result in substantial improvement in the quality of the environment and therefore need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested exemption. This would not reduce environmental impacts of plant operations and would result in economic and reserve power hardships to the licensee by requiring shutdown during a period of low grid reserve capacity.

Alternative Use of Resources: This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in connection with the "Final Environmental Statement related to the operation of Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2," dated January 1983. (This document is available for public inspection and copying at the locations indicated below.)

Agencies and Persons Consulted: The NRC staff reviewed the licensee's request that supports the proposed exemption. The NRC staff did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

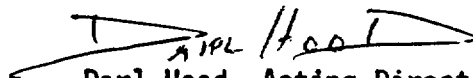
The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed exemption.

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

For details with respect to this action, see the request for the exemption dated May 5, 1986, and its supplements dated May 9, 1986, and June 13, 1986, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., and at the York County Library, 138 East Black Street, Rock Hill, South Carolina 29730.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland this 20th day of June 1986.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darl Hood", written over a horizontal line.

Darl Hood, Acting Director
PWR Project Directorate #4
Division of PWR Licensing-A