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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

No. 78-19
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NRC STAFF ISSUES PERMITS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF FOUR-UNIT NUCLEAR PLANT IN NORTH CAROLINA

Permits authorizing construction of the four-unit Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant in Wake and Chatham Counties, North Carolina, were issued to Carolina Power & Light Company by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Staff on January 27.

Each unit of the facility will use a pressurized water reactor and will have a net electrical output of about 900 megawatts. The site is located about 16 miles southwest of Raleigh.

Issuance of the permits was authorized by a January 23 decision of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board which conducted a public hearing on the application to build the four-unit facility.

The public hearing began in July 1973 and was completed in October 1977 following a three year suspension of the proceeding because of delays in the company's construction schedules.

In 1974 the company was granted an exemption which permitted some construction work to proceed such as construction of temporary facilities, clearing and grading, foundation excavation, relocation of railroad tracks and clearing for reservoirs.

The company currently estimates that Unit 1 will be in commercial operation by 1984 with completion of the other three units in 1986, 1988 and 1990.

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