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**M. S. Tuckman**  
*Executive Vice President*  
*Nuclear Generation*

February 20, 2002

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

ATTENTION: Document Control Desk

SUBJECT: Duke Energy Corporation

Oconee Nuclear Station - Units 1, 2, & 3  
Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270, and 50-287

McGuire Nuclear Station - Units 1 & 2  
Docket Nos. 50-369 and 50-370

Catawba Nuclear Station - Units 1 & 2  
Docket Nos. 50-413 and 50-414

Withdrawal of a Request for Relief From the ASME Boiler  
and Pressure Vessel Code, Section XI, Made in  
Accordance with 10CFR50.55a(g)(6)(i).  
Duke Energy Corporation Serial Number 01-GO-004

Duke Energy Corporation (Duke) submitted a request for relief from certain requirements of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code in a letter dated October 9, 2001. That request, Duke Serial Number 01-GO-004, sought NRC approval to allow use of an alternate examination method (use of a rate of pressure loss test) to detect and locate leakage in lieu of the Visual; VT-2 examination method for Class 2 and 3 air or gaseous systems. By transmittal of the letter herein, Duke is withdrawing the above request for relief.

Since the original submittal of this request, and in response to NRC questions, Duke has further reviewed its inservice inspection practices for the affected systems. This review included: (1) the applicability of Regulatory Guide 1.26, Revision 3; (2) the owner's responsibilities for system classification as stated in the ASME Section XI Code; and (3) a survey of similar practices at other nuclear utilities. With a new understanding of Quality Group Classifications, Duke has made the determination that it is in compliance with ASME Section XI Code requirements and no

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longer needs the relief requested in 01-GO-004.

This letter contains no regulatory commitments. Questions regarding this matter should be directed to J. S. Warren at (704) 382-4986.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "M. S. Tuckman".

M. S. Tuckman

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NRIA File/ELL  
ONS Master File - ON03DM (File OS-801.01)  
MNS Master File - MG01DM  
CNS Master File - CN04DM