March 9, 2004

Diane Curran, Esq. Harmon, Curran, Spielberg & Eisenberg, L.L.P. 1726 M Street, N.W., Suite 600 Washington, DC 20036

Dear Ms. Curran:

I am responding to your request for the disclosure of Duke Energy Corporation's (Duke) Answers to the NRC Staff's Request for Additional Information regarding security, submitted on March 1, 2004. Your request was pursuant to your ongoing representation of the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League in a proceeding before the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board. The proceeding concerns Duke's request to amend the operating license for the Catawba nuclear power plant to authorize irradiation of mixed oxide fuel lead test assemblies.

The Staff has reviewed your request for the aforementioned document and has determined that you do possess the requisite need to know for the information that you have requested. Therefore, the Staff has determined that you are authorized to have access to the requested document. To set up a time for you to inspect the document at our offices, please contact me at 301-415-1797 or, pursuant to the Board's Protective Order, you may contact Duke's counsel to inspect the document at their offices.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Antonio Fernández Counsel for NRC staff

cc: Service list