RELATED CORRESPONDENCE

DOCKETED 05/26/04

April 21, 2004

Mark J. Wetterhahn, Esq. Winston & Strawn LLP 1400 L Street, NW Washington, DC 20005

In the Matter of
DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION
(Catawba Nuclear Station Units 1 and 2)
Docket Nos. 50-413-OLA, 50-414-OLA

Dear Mr. Wetterhahn:

I am responding to your request for a need to know determination regarding Duke Energy Corporation's (Duke) Response to Request for Additional Information (TAC Nos. MB7863, MB7864), Mixed Oxide Fuel Lead Assemblies (Security), submitted on April 13, 2004. Your request was pursuant to your representation of Duke 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 and has determined that, subject to the Board's Protective Order, the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League's (BREDL) approved representatives possess the requisite need to know for the aforementioned document. Therefore, the Staff has determined that BREDL is authorized to have access to the requested document.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Margaret J. Bupp Counsel for NRC staff

cc: Service list