

October 4, 2004

Ann Marshall Young, Chair  
Administrative Judge  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Mail Stop: T-3F23  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Thomas S. Elleman  
Administrative Judge  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board  
5207 Creedmoor Rd. #101  
Raleigh, NC 27612

Anthony J. Baratta  
Administrative Judge  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Mail Stop: T-3F23  
Washington, D.C. 20555

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

Dear Administrative Judges:

The NRC staff (Staff) herein responds to the Board's October 1, 2004 Order, in which the Board directed the Staff to notify the Board and parties regarding when it will be able to provide a statement of the Staff's view of the impact of the information provided by Duke in its September 20, 2004 letter on issues related to Contention I and any other matters involved in this proceeding.

The Staff will be able to provide a statement of its view as to the effect of the information on the issues raised in Contention I within one month. The Staff will make its best effort to provide the statement earlier, if possible.

The only other issues remaining before the Licensing Board in this proceeding relate to security. There is nothing in the Duke information that would affect the Staff's conclusions regarding the security issues in this proceeding.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**  
Susan L. Uttal  
Counsel for NRC Staff

cc: Service list