

November 18, 2004

Mr. D. M. Jamil
Vice President
Catawba Nuclear Station
Duke Energy Corporation
4800 Concord Road
York, SC 29745

SUBJECT: CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2 RE: REQUEST FOR
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (TAC NOS. MC2547 AND MC2548)

Dear Mr. Jamil:

By letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) dated March 22, 2004, Duke Energy Corporation, the licensee for Catawba Nuclear Station (Catawba), Units 1 and 2, submitted an application for amendments to the Catawba technical specifications. These amendments would revise the surveillance frequency on selected Engineered Safety Features Actuation System slave relays from 92 days to 18 months. The NRC technical staff has reviewed the application and has determined that additional information is required, as identified in the Enclosure.

I discussed these issues with your staff on November 1, 2004. Your staff indicated that you would attempt to provide your response by January 17, 2005.

Please contact me at (301) 415-1842, if you have any questions on these issues.

Sincerely,
/RA/

Sean E. Peters, Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-413 and 50-414

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

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REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

DUKE POWER COMPANY

CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION, UNITS 1 AND 2

DOCKET NOS. 50-413 AND 50-414

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has reviewed the licensee's submittal dated March 22, 2004, regarding a request to change the surveillance frequency on selected Engineered Safety Features Actuation System slave relays from 92 days to 18 months. The NRC staff has identified the following information that is needed to enable the continuation of its review.

In Attachment 3, Page 2 of your submittal, you describe the program that evaluates the adequacy of the proposed surveillance interval if two or more Type AR relays fail within a 12-month period. Given that the proposed surveillance interval is 18 months, describe the situations in which two failures could be detected within 12 months. Furthermore, describe how you would use operating experience at other units in your evaluation of the adequacy of the 18-month interval.

cc:

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