

December 7, 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. MC3823 AND MC3824)

Dear Mr. Jamil:

By letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) dated July 19, 2004, Duke Energy Corporation submitted a license amendment request for Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2. This amendment would permit the replacement of the existing nickel cadmium diesel generator batteries with conventional lead acid batteries. The NRC technical staff has reviewed the request and has determined that additional information is required, as identified in the Enclosure.

We discussed these issues with your staff on October 6, 2004. Your staff indicated that you would attempt to provide your response by January 16, 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 Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has reviewed the licensee's submittal dated July 19, 2004, regarding the replacement of the existing nickel cadmium diesel generator (DG) batteries with lead acid batteries. The NRC staff has identified the following information that is needed to enable the continuation of its review.

Provide a discussion that shows that the design capacities of the DG battery chargers are capable of supporting the proposed DG batteries that utilize lead acid cells (i.e., show that the current DG battery chargers are capable of supplying the largest combined demands of the various steady state loads and that they have the charging capacity to restore the DG lead acid batteries from the design minimum charge state to the fully charged state, irrespective of plant status during these demand occurrences).

Enclosure

cc:

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