

March 22, 2005

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: Duke Energy Corporation
Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2
Docket Numbers 50-413 and 50-414
Proposed Technical Specifications Amendments
3.8.4, DC Sources - Operating
3.8.6, Battery Cell Parameters

Reference: Conference call between Duke Energy Corporation
and NRC, dated March 15, 2005

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.4 and 10 CFR 50.90, and in response to a question asked by the NRC during the reference conference call, Duke Energy Corporation is providing the subject docketed response. Specifically, the NRC asked during the conference call if the existing diesel generator battery chargers were sized to provide the required charging capacity for the diesel generator batteries, in addition to performing any other safety related required function. Catawba's response is as follows:

Catawba considered the actual loads that would be on the charger after an accident. This is documented in calculation # CNC-1381.05-00-0050. It should be noted that the post accident plant loads on the charger will not change as a result of this modification to replace the nickel cadmium batteries with lead acid batteries. The actual Ampere-Hours removed from the new lead acid batteries during a design basis event will be the exact same number of Ampere-Hours removed from the present nickel cadmium batteries. Since the Ampere-Hours removed remains the same, the charger is only required to restore the same amount of charge to the new battery after a design basis event that it does presently. Hence, the charger size required to perform this task in an 8-hour period remains the same. No design changes are being made which would impact the charger sizing requirements. Therefore, the chargers will continue to be adequately sized.

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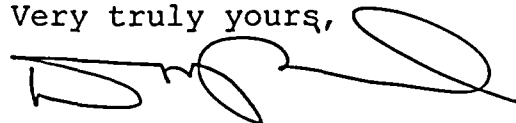
The original No Significant Hazards Analysis and Environmental Analysis contained in the July 19, 2004 submittal are unchanged as a result of this response.

There are no regulatory commitments contained in this letter or its attachment.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.91, a copy of this response is being sent to the appropriate state official.

Inquiries on this matter should be directed to L.J. Rudy at (803) 831-3084.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dhiam Jamil", with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Dhiaa M. Jamil

LJR/s

Dhiala M. Jamil affirms that he is the person who subscribed his name to the foregoing statement, and that all the matters and facts set forth herein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge.

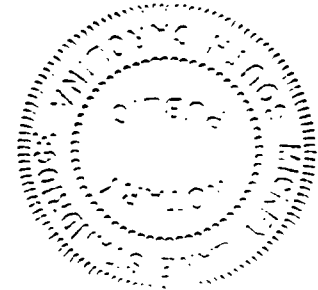


Dhiala M. Jamil, Vice President

Subscribed and sworn to me: 3-22-05
Date

Mickey Standridge
Notary Public

My commission expires: 7-10-2012
Date



SEAL

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xc:

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