



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II  
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET, SW, SUITE 23T85  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931

April 26, 2005

Duke Energy Corporation  
ATTN: Mr. D. M. Jamil  
Site Vice President  
Catawba Site  
4800 Concord Road  
York, SC 29745-9635

SUBJECT: REACTOR OPERATOR INITIAL RETAKE EXAMINATION - CATAWBA  
NUCLEAR STATION 05000413/2005302 AND 05000414/2005302

Dear Mr. Jamil:

During a phone conversation on April 18, 2005, between Mr. John Suptela, Supervisor Initial Training, and Mr. Timothy C. Kolb, Operations Engineer, arrangements were made for the administration of a licensing retake operating test at the Catawba Nuclear Station on July 26, 2005.

As agreed during this conversation, your staff will prepare three simulator scenarios, two of which will be administered and one spare. The operating tests will be developed based on the guidelines in Revision 9, of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." The facility has also agreed to make all necessary copies of the operating tests prior to administration. The NRC regional office will discuss with your staff any changes that might be necessary before the test is administered.

To meet the above schedule, Mr. Suptela agreed that your staff will furnish the test outlines and scenario details and the supporting reference materials identified in Attachment 2 of ES-201 by June 3, 2005. Pursuant to 10 CFR 55.40(b)(3), an authorized representative of the facility licensee shall approve the outlines and tests before they are submitted to the NRC for review and approval. All materials shall be complete and ready-to-use. Any delay in receiving the required examination and reference materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the examination to be rescheduled.

In order to conduct the requested operating tests it will be necessary for your staff to provide adequate space and accommodations in your simulation facility. In accordance with ES-302, your staff should retain the original simulator performance data (e.g., system pressures, temperatures, and levels) generated during the dynamic operating tests until the examination results are final.

Appendix E of NUREG-1021 contains a number of NRC policies and guidelines that will be in effect while the operating tests are being administered.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit preliminary operator license applications (Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval number 3150-0090), medical certifications (OMB approval number 3150-0024), and waiver requests (if any) (OMB approval number 3150-0090) by June 28, 2005.

This letter contains information collections that are subject to the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995* (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). These information collections were approved by the Office of Management and Budget, approval number Part 55 (3150-0018), which expires on June 30, 2006. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 50 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, writing the examinations, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments on any aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information and Records Management Branch (T-6 F33), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by Internet electronic mail at BJS1@NRC.GOV; and to the Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-10202, (3150-0101), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

The NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC's Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the Electronic Reading Room page of the NRC's public Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Suptela has been advised of the policies and guidelines referenced in this letter. If you have any questions regarding the NRC's examination procedures and guidelines, please contact Timothy C. Kolb at (404) 562-4665, (Internet E-mail: TCK@NRC.GOV), or me at (404) 562-4647, (Internet E-mail: JHM2@NRC.GOV).

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

James H. Moorman, III, Chief  
Operator Licensing Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos.: 50-413, 50-414  
License Nos.: NPF-35, NPF-52

cc: (See page 3)

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