

June 28, 2005

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 TO USE A PORTION OF A LATER EDITION AND ADDENDA OF THE ASME CODE DURING THE THIRD 10-YEAR INSERVICE INSPECTION INTERVAL (TAC NOS. MC6807 AND MC6808)

Dear Mr. Jamil:

By letter dated March 23, 2005, Duke Energy Corporation (Duke, the licensee), submitted a request to use a portion of a later edition of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (Code) Section XI requirements for the Catawba Nuclear Station (Catawba), Units 1 and 2. Because of questions from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff, letter dated June 1, 2005, Duke resubmitted the application for Catawba, Unit 1 only. In this letter, the licensee requested to use the ASME Code, Section XI, 2001 Edition, Table IWD-2500-1, Category D-B for Class 3 system pressure testing for Catawba, Unit 1 in lieu of the 1998 Edition with 2000 Addenda, Table IWD-2500-1, Category D-B for Class 3 system pressure testing for the third 10-year inservice inspection interval. The NRC staff found the proposed alternative to be acceptable. The June 1, 2005, letter, also withdrew the request for Catawba, Unit 2. Therefore, the NRC staff terminated its review for Catawba, Unit 2.

The NRC staff's evaluation and conclusions are contained in the enclosed Safety Evaluation.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Evangelos C. Marinos, Chief, 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/encls: See next page

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SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

THIRD 10-YEAR INSERVICE INSPECTION INTERVAL

DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION, ET AL.

CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1

DOCKET NO. 50-413

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated March 23, 2005 (Agencywide Documents Access Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML050950220), Duke Energy Company (Duke, the licensee), submitted a request to use a portion of a later edition of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (Code) Section XI requirements for the Catawba Nuclear Station (Catawba), Units 1 and 2. Due to a Request for Additional Information from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff, Duke resubmitted the request to use a portion of a later edition of the ASME Code Section XI requirements for the Catawba Nuclear Station, Unit 1 only. In letter dated June 1, 2005 (ADAMS Accession No. ML051670299), the licensee requested to use the requirements of the 2001 Edition of ASME Code, Section XI, Table IWD-2500-1, Category D-B, for Class 3 system pressure testing for Catawba, Unit 1 in lieu of the requirements in the 1998 Edition with 2000 Addenda, Table IWD-2500-1, Category D-B, for Class 3 system pressure testing for the unit's third 10-year inservice inspection (ISI) interval.

2.0 REGULATORY EVALUATION

Pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 50.55a(g)(4), ASME Code Class 1, 2 and 3 components (including supports) shall meet the requirements, except the design and access provisions and the preservice examination requirements, set forth in the ASME Code, Section XI, "Rules for Inservice Inspection (ISI) of Nuclear Power Plant Components," to the extent practical within the limitations of design, geometry, and materials of construction of the components. The regulations require that inservice examination of components and system pressure tests conducted during the first 10-year interval and subsequent intervals comply with the requirements in the latest edition and addenda of Section XI of the ASME Code incorporated by reference in 10 CFR 50.55a(b) 12 months prior to the start of the 120-month interval, subject to the limitations and modifications listed therein.

The third 10-year ISI interval for Catawba, Unit 1 begins on June 29, 2005. The ISI Code of Record for the third 10-year interval for Catawba, Unit 1 is the 1998 Edition with 2000 Addenda. The components (including supports) may meet the requirements set forth in subsequent editions and addenda of the ASME Code incorporated by reference in 10 CFR 50.55a(b) subject to the limitations and modifications listed therein and subject to Commission approval.

ENCLOSURE

ISI of ASME Code Class 1, 2, and 3 components is to be performed in accordance with Section XI of the ASME Code and applicable edition and addenda as required by 10 CFR 50.55a(g) except where specific written approval has been granted by the Commission pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(4)(iv). 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(4)(iv) states, "Inservice examination of components and system pressure tests may meet the requirements set forth in subsequent editions and addenda that are incorporated by reference in paragraph (b) of this section, and subject to Commission approval. Portions of editions or addenda may be used provided that all related requirements of the respective editions or addenda are met."

3.0 TECHNICAL EVALUATION

The licensee requested to use the requirements of ASME Code, Section XI, 2001 Edition, Table IWD-2500-1, Category D-B, for Class 3 system pressure testing for Catawba, Unit 1 in lieu of the 1998 Edition with 2000 Addenda, Table IWD-2500-1, Category D-B, for Class 3 system pressure testing for the third 10-year ISI interval.

The 1998 Edition with 2000 Addenda, Table IWD-2500-1, Category D-B, for Class 3 system pressure testing lists two pressure test requirements for Class 3 systems. One of these tests is a system leakage test and one is a system hydrostatic test. The 2001 Edition, Table IWD-2500-1, Category D-B, for Class 3 system pressure testing lists one pressure test requirement, which is a system leakage test.

The NRC staff confirmed that the application of the requirements of the 2001 Edition, Table IWD-2500-1, Category D-B has been approved in 10 CFR 50.55(a). Further, there are no limitations or modifications addressed in 10 CFR 50.55a(b) which would apply to the implementation of the proposed ASME Code requirements. Finally, the NRC staff confirmed that there are no related requirements of the 2001 Edition of the ASME Code that would need to be met to support Duke's request.

4.0 CONCLUSION

The NRC staff concludes that the licensee's request to use the 2001 Edition of ASME Code, Section XI, Table IWD-2500-1, Category D-B for Class 3 system pressure testing for Catawba, Unit 1 in lieu of the 1998 Edition with 2000 Addenda, Table IWD-2500-1, Category D-B for Class 3 system pressure testing for the third 10-year ISI interval is acceptable without limitation or modification. Therefore, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(4)(iv), the NRC staff approves the use of the 2001 Edition of ASME Code, Section XI, Table IWD-2500-1, Category D-B for Class 3 system pressure testing for Catawba, Unit 1 in lieu of the 1998 Edition with 2000 Addenda, Table IWD-2500-1, Category D-B for Class 3 system pressure testing for the Catawba, Unit 1 third 10-year ISI interval. All other ASME Code, Section XI requirements for which relief was not specifically requested and approved in this request remain applicable, including third party review by the Authorized Nuclear Inservice Inspector.

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Date: June 28, 2005

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