



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION II
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

March 5, 2012

Mr. J. R. Morris
Site Vice President
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
Catawba Nuclear Station
4800 Concord Road
York, SC 29745-9635

**SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION UNITS
1 AND 2 (REPORT 05000413/2011007 AND 05000414/2011007)**

Dear Mr. Morris:

On February 14, 2012, the NRC completed its end-of-cycle performance review of Catawba Nuclear Station (CNS) Units 1 and 2. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from January 1, 2011, through December 31, 2011. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility. This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include security information. A separate letter will include the NRC's assessment of your performance in the Security Cornerstone and its security-related inspection plan.

The NRC determined that overall, CNS Units 1 and 2 operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and met all cornerstone objectives. The NRC determined the performance at CNS Units 1 and 2 during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix because all inspection findings had very low safety significance (i.e., Green), and all PIs indicated that your performance was within the nominal, expected range (i.e., Green). Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct ROP baseline inspections at your facility. We will also conduct operator licensing examinations and Temporary Instruction 182, Review of the Implementation of the Industry Initiative to Control Degradation of Underground Piping and Tanks.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through June 30, 2013. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the mid-cycle performance review. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes.

DEC

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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 Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact me at 404-997-4607 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jonathan H. Bartley, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 1
Division of Reactor Projects

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

cc w/encl: (See page 3)

Enclosure: Catawba Inspection/Activity Plan (03/01/2012 – 06/30/2013)

DEC

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X PUBLICLY AVAILABLE NON-PUBLICLY AVAILABLE X SENSITIVE NON-SENSITIVE
ADAMS: X Yes ACCESSION NUMBER: ML12066A014 X SUNSI REVIEW
COMPLETE FORM 665 ATTACHED

OFFICE	RII:DRP	RII:DRP				
SIGNATURE	/RA/	/RA/				
NAME	CRapp	JBartley				
DATE	3/5/2012	3/5/2012				
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY DOCUMENT NAME: S:\DRP\PERIODIC ASSESSMENTS & REPORTS\EOC & MID-CYCLE\2011\END-OF-CYCLE\INPUT\RPB1\EOC LETTERS - FINAL\CNS ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER.DOCX

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Letter to J. R. Morris from Jonathan H. Bartley dated March 5, 2012

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