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SUBJECT: Informs NRC of recent corporate decision to begin conversion process for each of Duke Power Co nuclear stations.

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DUKE POWER

August 17, 1995

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

SUBJECT: Duke Power Company

Oconee Nuclear Station
Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270, 50-287

McGuire Nuclear Station
Docket Nos. 50-369, 50-370

Catawba Nuclear Station
Docket Nos. 50-413, 50-414

Dear Sir:

During discussions at the NRC's Regulatory Information Conference held in May of this year, nuclear utilities were encouraged to proceed with the process of converting to the Improved Standard Technical Specifications. I am writing this letter to inform the NRC Staff of the recent corporate decision to begin the conversion process for each of the Duke nuclear stations. Since this decision will surely have an impact upon NRC Staff resources for review and approval purposes, it is our desire to inform the NRC of Duke's Technical Specifications conversion plans as soon as possible.

For McGuire and Catawba Nuclear Stations, we plan to begin the conversion project in January 1996 and submit the necessary Technical Specifications amendment packages to the NRC for review and approval in February 1997.

For Oconee Nuclear Station, we plan to begin the conversion project in June 1996 and submit the necessary Technical Specifications amendment packages to the NRC for review and approval in October 1997.

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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
August 17, 1995
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Implementation of the new Improved Standard Technical Specifications is planned for February 1998 at McGuire and Catawba, and October 1998 for Oconee. These dates allow a six month period for NRC review/approval and a six month period for the necessary internal activities required prior to implementation at the Duke nuclear stations. Therefore, we are hereby requesting that future NRC planning allocate resources to support the schedule described above.

Please contact G. A. Copp at (704) 382-5826 if there are questions or comments, or if we need to meet with the NRC Staff to discuss this matter in more detail.

Very truly yours,



M. S. Tuckman

MST/JSW

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