

June 24, 1986

Mr. Christopher E. Elliott
20 Boothe Hill Road
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514

DISTRIBUTION YT 869373
Docket w/incoming BBuckley PPAS
NRC PDR w/incoming DMiller
HDenton DMatthews
TNovak AJohnson (2)
LRubenstein DMossburg

Dear Mr. Elliott:

I am pleased to respond to your letter to Mr. Denton which we received June 9, 1986, in which you expressed certain concerns about the Shearon Harris nuclear power plant. Specifically, you stated that "Carolina Power and Light has not conducted a full participation test of the present emergency plan." You also requested that "at least until such time as state and local governmental participation...is fully resolved, no exemption(s) from the requirement of a full participation test within one year prior to the granting of any full power license should be considered or approved."

In response to your statement that Carolina Power and Light (CP&L) has not conducted a full participation test of the present emergency plan, there was a full participation exercise conducted May 17-18, 1985, in which the State of North Carolina, and Wake, Chatham, Harnett and Lee counties participated. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reported that, based on a review of the exercise, the state and local emergency plans are adequate and capable of being implemented, and the exercise demonstrated that offsite preparedness is adequate to provide reasonable assurance that appropriate measures can be taken to protect the health and safety of the public living in the vicinity of the Shearon Harris nuclear power plant in the event of a radiological emergency.

Regarding a possible exemption from the requirement to conduct an exercise within one year prior to full power authorization, CP&L has stated by letter dated June 10, 1986, that they are now in the process of consulting with involved off-site response organizations on the scheduling of exercises for the Shearon Harris Plant. Furthermore, CP&L requested that the NRC staff hold in abeyance active review of the exemption request and the request for a hearing until the consulting process has been completed. At that point, CP&L will then provide additional information to the NRC staff for review. Consequently, the NRC staff will not act on this matter until the above cited additional information has been provided.

I hope that the above discussion has been responsive to your concern.

Sincerely,

/s/

Bart C. Buckley, Senior Project Manager
PWR Project Directorate No. 2
Division of PWR Licensing-A
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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