

AUG 23 1982

Mr. C. Litchfield, Director
Camden Municipal Utilities
1000 Lyttleton Street
Camden, South Carolina 29020

Dear Mr. Litchfield:

OPERATING LICENSE ANTITRUST REVIEW OF UNIT 1 CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION

The NRC staff is presently reviewing the application of the Duke Power Company (Duke), the lead applicant, for an operating license for Unit 1 of the Catawba Nuclear Station. The purpose of this review is to establish whether any significant changes, which have antitrust implications, have occurred as a consequence of Duke's* activities since the construction permit antitrust review was completed in 1975.

In its response to the Commission's Regulatory Guide 9.3, Duke indicated that the Town of Camden had requested electric service from Duke but was denied service at a meeting of the two parties on January 27, 1982. Duke informed the town,

"...that it was unwilling to provide service due to possible shortages of power in the 1990's when it is estimated that the Company will have inadequate reserves and possibly negative reserves."

As a means of assisting in our analysis of significant changes, we would appreciate it if you would furnish us with correspondence relevant to the Town's request for electric service from Duke and provide your interpretation of the reasons for Duke's refusal to provide service. Moreover, we would like to know what type of alternatives are available and how the Town's electric system has or will be affected by this denial by Duke?

* Any changes with antitrust implications resulting from activities of the other co-applicants, Saluda River Electric Cooperative, Inc. or North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation, are also germane to our analysis.

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To assure a timely review of the captioned operating license application, we would appreciate your response to this inquiry within thirty days.

Sincerely,

/s/ A. L. Toalston

Argil Toalston, Chief
Antitrust and Economic
Analysis Branch
Division of Engineering
Office of Nuclear Reactor
Regulation

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