DUKE POWER COMPANY P.O. BOX 33189 CHARLOTTE, N.C. 28242

HAL B. TUCKER
VICE PRESIDENT
NUCLEAR PRODUCTION

July 3, 1984

TELEPHONE (704) 373-4531

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Ms. E. G. Adensam, Chief Licensing Branch No. 4

Re: Catawba Nuclear Station

Docket Nos. 50-413 and 50-414

Dear Mr. Denton:

Section 5.4.4.1 of the Catawba Safety Evaluation Report discusses compliance with BTP RSB 5-1. Therein it was requested that any necessary operator actions from outside the control room that are necessary to achieve cold shutdown be suitably justified.

Power is normally removed from three of the four RHR suction isolation valves during normal operation for Appendix R and security purposes. This is accomplished by opening and tagging the breakers at the respective motor control centers located outside the main control room.

This deviates from strict compliance with BTP RSB 5-1 which requires that cold shutdown be achievable from the main control room. However, it should be recognized that while opening these valves does require manual action outside the main control room (i.e., restoring power), there is ample time to accomplish this (several hours), and access to the breakers will not be restricted since they need be opened only during a normal (non-accident) shutdown.

We feel that operability of these valves is not significantly reduced as a result of the present method of power lockout.

Very truly yours,

Hal B. Tucker

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cc: Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Regional Administrator
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

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cc: NRC Resident Inspector Catawba Nuclear Station

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