

January 11, 1996

Mr. William R. McCollum
Vice President, Catawba Site
Duke Power Company
4800 Concord Road
York, South Carolina 29745

SUBJECT: CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1 - SNUBBER INSPECTION FREQUENCIES -
REQUEST FOR RELIEF NO. 95-05 (TAC NO. M93355)

Dear Mr. McCollum:

The purpose of this letter is to authorize your proposed alternative to use the snubber inspection programs specified in Technical Specification (TS) 3/4.7.8 in lieu of the requirements of the ASME Code, Section XI, 1989 Edition for the Inservice Inspection (ISI) Program regarding snubber inspection frequencies.

Currently, the Catawba Unit 1 ISI program is required to be performed, per the ASME Code, Section XI, Article IWF-5000, in accordance with the first addendum to ASME/ANSI OM-1987 Edition, Part 4, published in 1988 (OMa-1988, Part 4). In a letter dated August 23, 1995, you proposed an alternative to the above requirements of the Code. You requested approval for the alternative use of the visual examinations and functional testing programs on Code Class 1, 2, and 3 snubbers, which are currently incorporated in Catawba Technical Specification (TS) 3/4.7.8, "Snubbers."

The staff has reviewed the information provided in your August 23, 1995, letter. Our evaluation and conclusions are contained in the enclosed Safety Evaluation. The staff considers that TS 3/4.7.8 requirements of snubber visual examination and testing programs, as provided in your proposal, meet the intent of OMa-1988, Part 4, and provide an acceptable level of quality and safety. Accordingly, the NRC staff authorizes the use of such alternative pursuant to a 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i).

Sincerely,
Signed by L. Wiens for

Herbert N. Berkow, Director
Project Directorate II-2
Division of Reactor Projects-I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-413

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Docket No. 50-413

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