

June 4, 1992

Duke Power Company
ATTN: Mr. Michael S. Tuckman
Vice President, Catawba Site
P. O. Box 255
Clover, SC 29710

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION REQUALIFICATION EXAMINATION REPORT
NO. 50-413/92-300

This refers to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) administered requalification examinations led by J. Moorman during the weeks of May 4 and May 11, 1992. These examinations were administered to employees of your company who currently hold licenses to operate the Catawba Nuclear Station. At the conclusion of these examinations, the examination questions and preliminary findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the Examination Report, Enclosure 1.

NRC operator requalification exams were previously administered to operators of your facility in April 1991. This exam identified operator weaknesses in procedure usage, particularly the use Emergency Operating Procedures. Our examination report dated May 30, 1991, identified these weaknesses as similar to weaknesses identified in the previous NRC administered requalification examination. Your management was invited to the Region II office to discuss Emergency Operating Procedure requirements and the effectiveness of training in this area. At this meeting, Catawba management told the NRC that improvements would be made.

During this year's requalification exam, the examiners noted weaknesses in procedure usage, Emergency Operating Procedure content, and operator training methodology that indicate some of your operators would have difficulty mitigating an accident. These findings are similar to those identified during the above mentioned exams and are consistent with the recent performance of personnel in your operations department that resulted in a civil penalty being issued by the NRC.

The continued poor performance of the operators, particularly with respect to procedure usage, is indicative of a lack of effectiveness of Operations management in ensuring procedure adherence. It is also indicative of a lack of Operations management support for requalification training of the operators and the function of the training program. We feel that comprehensive corrective actions to address the problems described in this report are warranted. Accordingly, you are invited to respond to this report in writing within 30 days describing those corrective actions.

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A Requalification Program Evaluation Report is provided as Enclosure 2. This evaluation report finds that the Catawba licensed operator requalification program remains rated satisfactory. A Simulator Fidelity Report is provided as Enclosure 3. A copy of the written examination questions and answer keys is included in this report as Enclosure 4.

In accordance with 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions concerning this examination, please contact us.

Sincerely,

(Original signed by A. F. Gibson)
Albert F. Gibson, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Enclosures:

- 1. Examination Report 50-413/92-300
- 2. Requalification Program Evaluation Report
- 3. Simulator Fidelity Report
- 4. Written Examinations and Answer Keys
(Document Control Desk Only)

cc w/encls. 1, 2, and 3:

- H. B. Tucker, Senior Vice President,
Nuclear Generation
- W. R. McCollum, Catawba Station Manager
- R. C. Futrell, Compliance
- J. D. Wylie, Training Manager
- W. H. Barron, Director, Operations Training

cc w/encl 1:

State of South Carolina

bcc w/encls 1, 2, and 3:

- R. Martin, NRR
- E. Merschoff, DRS
- A. Belisle, DRP
- W. Orders, Catawba Senior
Resident Inspector
- W. Moorman, DRS
- G. Harris, DRS
- Operator Licensing Branch, NRR

bcc w/encls 1, 2, 3, and 4:

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