

DUKE POWER COMPANY

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NUCLEAR PRODUCTION

TELEPHONE
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September 19, 1984

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

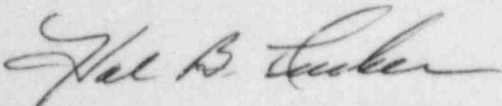
Dear Mr. Denton:

On June 25, 1984, Duke Power Company requested a change to the Catawba Unit 1 Draft Technical Specification 4.6.1.3.6 related to test requirements for the containment personnel airlocks. The requested change involved an exemption to Paragraph III.D.2(b)(ii) of 10 CFR 50, Appendix J. The exemption request was supplemented by letters dated July 11 and 13, 1984.

In Section 6.2.6 of Supplement 3 to the Catawba SER, the Staff concluded that the requested exemption to Appendix J was justified during the initial fuel loading and precritical testing period. The Catawba Unit 1 Technical Specifications, which were issued on July 18, 1984, included the requested change.

It is now requested that the exemption to Paragraph III.D.2(b)(ii) of Appendix J be granted for the life of the facility. The justifications provided in Attachment 3 to my June 25, 1984 letter are considered applicable to all modes of operation. The current Technical Specification requirements to substitute the seal leakage test for the full pressure test of Paragraph III.D.2(b)(ii) of Appendix J whenever no maintenance has been performed on the airlock provides reasonable assurance that the containment airlocks will perform their intended safety function.

Very truly yours,



Hal B. Tucker

ROS:slb

Attachment

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Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
September 19, 1984
Page Two

cc: Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Regional Administrator
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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NRC Resident Inspector
Catawba Nuclear Station

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