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DUKE POWER

August 6, 1992

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attention: Document Control Desk  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: Catawba Nuclear Station  
Systematic Assessment Of Licensee Performance  
NRC Inspection Report Nos. 50-413/92-10, 50-414/92-10

Mr Stewart D. Ebnetter's letter dated July 1, 1992 transmitted the initial SALP report for Catawba Nuclear Station for the period of February 3, 1991 through May 2, 1992. The report was discussed with Duke Power representatives during a meeting held on July 14, 1992 at Catawba Nuclear Station.

We concur with the results of the assessment. We feel the assessment to be balanced, fair, and very beneficial. We appreciate your recognition of our progress.

The assessment identified inadequate configuration control, due in part, to inattention to detail and procedure weaknesses, and inadequate management attention to the licensed operator training program as recurring problems from the previous assessment. With the recent initiation of an aggressive Excellence Management program, we anticipate attaining a high level of excellence in these and all areas. This program defines Duke Power Company's new philosophy for quality (customer centered) and promotes each employee's role in our quality improvement process through Personal Action Plans.

In early 1991, Duke Power completed its first corporate strategic plan. Nuclear Excellence was identified as one of the seven areas of strategic focus. As Catawba Nuclear Station began to develop plans to align with the corporate strategic plan, Nuclear Excellence became an increasingly important goal and will continue to influence how we conduct our business.

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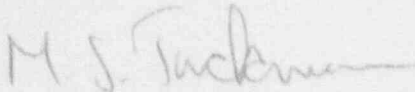
On July 13, 1992, a management meeting was conducted at Region II to present our plans for improvement regarding management involvement and support of the licensed operator training program. We also presented a plan for upgrading our Emergency Operating procedures. With these planned enhancements in place, we expect to resolve all weaknesses associated with the licensed operator training program.

We expect long term benefits from the reorganization of our personnel initiated during this past assessment period. Expected benefits include not only increased on-site engineering/technical support, but also include enhanced management attention to detail/management involvement with daily station activities as a result of a reduction in levels of management.

While we are pleased to have received an assessment which indicates improvement in our performance, we also realize management's attention needs to remain focused on the most important issues. We have recently finalized a top management issues awareness program which will facilitate tracking and resolution of these issues periodically.

With these new programs in place, we expect our performance to improve over the next SALP period.

Very truly yours,



M.S. Tuckman

/JLL

xc: S.D. Ebnetter  
Regional Administrator, Region II

R.E. Martin, ONRR

W.T. Orders  
Senior Resident Inspector