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DUKE POWER

April 9, 1996

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

Subject: Catawba Nuclear Station
Dockets 50-413 and 50-414
Reply to Notice of Violation (NOV)
Inspection Report 50-413, 414/96-03

Attached is Duke Power Company's response to the one (1) Level IV violation cited in Inspection Report 50-413, 414/96-03, dated March 12, 1996. This violation was identified during the special team inspection conducted by H. O. Christensen on February 8-13, 1996.

If there are any questions concerning this response, please contact Kay Nicholson at (803) 831-3237.

Sincerely,

Mark E. Patrick for

W. R. McCollum

\KEN:RESP96.03

xc: S. D. Ebnetter, Regional Administrator
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**DUKE POWER COMPANY
CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION
REPLY TO NOTICE OF VIOLATION
413, 414/96-03-02**

Notice of Violation

Technical Specification 6.8.1, Procedures and Programs, requires, in part, that written procedures be established, implemented, and maintained covering the activities referenced in Appendix A of Regulatory Guide 1.33, Revision 2, February 1978. As referenced, this includes procedures for alarm conditions. Implicit in this requirement is the stipulation that the procedures be adequate for the circumstances.

Operations Management Procedure 1-8, Section 7.2.B.9.a, states, the operator at the controls ensures that the appropriate follow-up action is taken for all alarms. Alarms are defined as:..., Event Recorder Alarms,...When an alarm is received, shall ensure initiation of prompt corrective action in accordance with procedures.

Contrary to the above, on February 5, 1996, Operations Management Procedure 1-8 was not implemented in that 21 Unit 2 event recorder alarm sequences occurred consisting of alarm points ER150, ER151, ER106, and ER043 and no follow-up action was taken. Additionally, no specific procedural guidance was established to follow-up on these event recorder alarms. These alarms indicated degradation of conditions on the 22 kV isolated phase bus system on February 5, 1996, prior to Loss of Offsite Power event of February 6, 1996, caused by failures in the Unit 2 22 kV isolated phase bus system.

This is a Severity Level IV Violation (Supplement I).

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RESPONSE:

1. Reason for Violation

This violation is attributed to two root causes. First, the design of the events recorder was deficient in that there was no audible prompt for an alarm being received.

Additionally, the station procedures lacked established interface requirements to ensure that a proper response was carried out. As a result of these root causes, Operations personnel failed to take follow up action when events recorder alarms were received.

2. Corrective Actions Taken and Results Achieved

The events recorder was modified to provide the operator with an audible tone when any point alarm is received.

An Electrical Events Recorder Points Response document was developed to provide alarm response guidance. This document, in a generic fashion, covers all the events recorder points associated with electrical power systems.

An operator update was issued on 04/03/96 to describe the alarm response document and inform the control room operators of its location.

3. Corrective Action to be Taken to Avoid Future Violations

The corrective steps identified in Section 2. above are adequate to prevent further violations.

4. Date of Full Compliance

Duke Power Company is now in full compliance.