DUKE POWER COMPANY
NUCLEAR PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT
P.O. BOX 33189, 422 SOUTH CHURCH STREET
CHARLOTTE, N.C. 28242
(704) 373-4011

February 8, 1985

Division of Environmental Management
Water Quality Section
P.O. Box 27687
Raleigh, NC 27611

SUBJECT: Noncompliance Notification
McGuire Nuclear Station
File: MC-704.20

Dear Sir:

This is to notify you of a noncompliance incident at McGuire Nuclear Station. Information related to the incident is as follows:

Discharge

The discharge was the conventional wastewater treatment facility effluent (discharge 002).

Cause of Noncompliance

The pH of the effluent was less than 6. The actual pH was 5.6. The carbon dioxide addition system malfunctioned allowing unnecessary CO_2 addition when the controlling pH instrument lost flow.

Date and Time

The incident was discovered at 9:00 AM, February 4, 1985. It is estimated that the duration was less than 12 hours (less than 311000 gallons).

Prevention

Flow to the pH controller was re-established which terminated the CO_2 feed. The situation is being investigated and changes will be implemented to prevent future occurrences because of these conditions.

Summary

Discharge from the conventional wastewater treatment facility was started February 3, 1985 at 9:15 PM. The effluent pH was 7.0 at a flow of 432 gpm. At 9:00 AM on February 4, 1985, it was discovered that CO_2 was being added at 86 percent of capacity. A grab sample for pH revealed the pH was 5.6. Action was immediately taken to re-establish flow to the pH instrumentation which caused an automatic termination of CO_2 feed resulting in a discharge of pH 6.2.

IE23
1/0

The maximum quantity of water discharged during the 12-hour period was 311,000 gallons. The discharge of low pH water resulted in a minimal impact on the environment for several reasons including (1) aeration of the sample eliminated the CO_2, (2) the total acidity (to 8.3) was low, and (3) flow from the collection basin was high (900 gpm) because of recent rains which provided dilution at a pH of 7.0.

Sincerely,

W A Haller/WTG

W. A. Haller, Manager
Nuclear Technical Services

WTG/wmc

cc: Rex Gleason

Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555