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HAL B. TUCKER
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NUCLEAR PRODUCTION

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November 12, 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

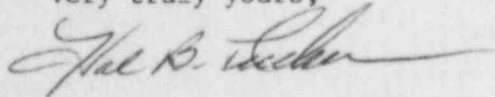
Dear Mr. Denton:

Section 13.1.2.3 of Supplement 3 to the Catawba SER discusses the shift staffing pattern for the startup of Catawba Unit 1. As noted in that discussion, Duke Power would initially use four 12-hour shifts. The Staff considered this shift pattern to be essentially equivalent to five 8-hour shifts. During a June 13, 1984 meeting with the Staff, Duke Power representatives had discussed plans to go to five 12-hour shifts when additional licensed operators became available in mid-October, 1984. This discussion is reflected in the above referenced SSER section.

Results from recent operator license examinations have given Catawba Unit 1 a total of 36 licensed operators (21 SRO's and 15 RO's). This is a sufficient number of licensed operators to meet the minimum Technical Specification staffing levels for either four or five 12-hour shifts as illustrated in Attachment 1. In order to maintain a high level of experience on each shift and to minimize overtime during the startup of Unit 1 and preoperational testing of Unit 2, we consider it advantageous to maintain a higher number of licensed and non-licensed operators on each shift by remaining on a four 12-hour shift pattern rather than going to five 12-hour shifts.

There are currently 12 additional people in license training. They are scheduled to take the NRC license examination on January 7, 1985. We would therefore propose to reevaluate our schedule for implementing a five 12-hour shift rotation after these examination results become available with the intent of going to five 12-hour shifts in the March-April, 1985 time frame.

Very truly yours,



Hal B. Tucker

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

Mr. Robert Guild, Esq.
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ATTACHMENT 1
 CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION
 OPERATIONS LICENSE OPERATOR STAFFING

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

	FUEL LOAD		MODE 4, 3, 2, & 1	
	<u>4</u> SHIFT	<u>5</u> SHIFT	<u>4</u> SHIFT	<u>5</u> SHIFT
SHIFT OPERATING ENGINEER	1	1	1	1
SHIFT SUPERVISOR	4	5	4	5
SRO IN CR	4	5	4	5
RO	8	10	8	10
TOTAL	<u>17</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>26</u>

Current number of licensed operators: 21 SRO's
15 RO's
 36 Total