

DUKE POWER COMPANY

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March 28, 1985

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

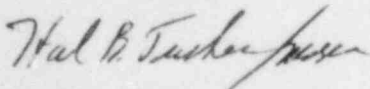
Re: Catawba Nuclear Station  
Docket Nos. 50-413 and 50-414

Dear Mr. Denton:

Section 13.5.2 of Supplement 4 to the Catawba Safety Evaluation Report discusses the safety-significant differences in the Catawba emergency procedures from the NRC-approved Westinghouse Owners Group generic technical guidelines. As noted in the referenced SER section, a significant addition was made to ECA-1.2, "LOCA Outside Containment". The Catawba emergency procedure takes advantage of the ice condenser design by providing an option to release steam from the Reactor Coolant System to melt the ice and thus provide additional cooling water to help offset the loss of coolant outside the containment building.

The Staff noted in the SER that qualitatively, this innovation appeared to have merit and therefore requested that Duke study the matter further and provide additional justification for this recovery strategy. By letter dated October 17, 1984 Duke committed to provide this information by April 1, 1985. Due to the broad scope of the analysis, this justification will take longer to formulate than previously expected. It is now anticipated that the requested information will be submitted on or before April 30, 1985. Because of the confirmatory nature of this information, no impact on the continued safe operation of Catawba Unit 1 is expected as a result of this delay.

Very truly yours,



Hal B. Tucker

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Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director

March 26, 1985

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cc: Dr. J. Nelson Grace, Regional Administrator  
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