

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONDUKE POWER COMPANY, ET AL.CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT NOS. 1 AND 2DOCKET NOS. 50-413 AND 50-414ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ANDFINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering issuance of amendments to Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-35 and NPF-52 issued to the Duke Power Company (the licensee), for operation of the Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2, located in York County, South Carolina.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action:

The proposed action would revise the limitations on concentrations of radioactive material released in liquid effluents and the limitations on the dose rate resulting from radioactive material released in gaseous effluents, and reflect the relocation of the prior 10 CFR 20.106 requirements to the new 10 CFR 20.1302. These changes are in response to the new 10 CFR Part 20. The review of an additional item, to revise the BASES for the liquid holdup tank TS, was not completed and consequently is not included in the amendment. It will be addressed by separate correspondence.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed action is needed in order to retain operational flexibility consistent with 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix I, concurrent with the implementation of the revised 10 CFR Part 20.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The proposed revision does not change the actual release rates as referenced in the TS as a dose rate to the maximally exposed member of the public. Therefore, there will be no increase in the types or amounts of effluents that may be released offsite, nor an increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposures. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed changes.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed changes do not affect nonradiological effluent and have no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant non-radiological impacts associated with the proposed changes.

Alternative to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission's staff has concluded that there is no significant environmental impact associated with the proposed changes to the TS, any alternative to the amendments will have either no significantly different environmental impact or greater environmental impact. The principal alternative would be to deny the requested amendments. This would not reduce environmental impacts as a result of plant operation.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in connection with the Final Environmental Statement related to the operation of the Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2, dated January 1983.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The Commission's staff did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed license amendments.

Based on the above environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further information with respect to this action, see the application dated November 5, 1992, as supplemented December 9 and 18, 1992, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, NW., Washington, DC and at the York County Library, 138 East Black Street, Rock Hill, South Carolina.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 30th day of December 1992.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Timothy A. Reed, Acting Director
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - 1/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation