

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONBEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of )  
DUKE POWER COMPANY, et al. ) Docket Nos. 50-413  
(Catawba Nuclear Station, ) 50-414  
Units 1 and 2) )

## TESTIMONY OF RICHARD B. CHILDERS

- 1 Q. STATE YOUR NAME AND YOUR WORK ADDRESS.  
2 A. Richard B. Childers, Catawba Nuclear Project, P.O. Box 223,  
3 Clover, SC 29710.  
4 Q. WHAT IS YOUR PRESENT JOB WITH DUKE POWER COMPANY?  
5 A. I am a Senior Welding Inspector, Visual, MT, and PT Inspection in  
6 the Turbine and Auxiliary Buildings.  
7 Q. SUMMARIZE YOUR EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS, INCLUDING  
8 OTHER DUKE AND NON-DUKE JOBS, EDUCATION,  
9 CERTIFICATIONS, AND COMPANY SPONSORED COURSES AND  
10 TRAINING.  
11 A. I attended Rock Hill High School, and York Technical College, with  
12 1 year of welding. I worked at the Westinghouse Turbine Plant for  
13 9 months welding; Mac-Fab., Inc. for 2 years as welding  
14 supervisor; Daniel Construction for 6 years welding; and Duke  
15 Power for about 7 years (since 1981 as a senior welding inspector).  
16 Currently I am a Level II MT and Level II PT Inspector.

1 Q. ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH WHAT IS COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS  
2 THE WELDING INSPECTOR CONCERNS WHICH WERE EXPRESSED IN  
3 LATE 1981/EARLY 1982?  
4 A. Yes.  
5 Q. WHAT IS YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT THESE CONCERNS  
6 WERE?  
7 A. My understanding of these concerns is that they were focus on a  
8 belief that our higher supervision was not supporting the Welding  
9 Inspectors.  
10 Q. DID YOU EXPRESS ANY CONCERNS AS A WELDING INSPECTOR TO  
11 ANY OF THE TASK FORCES OR TO DUKE POWER MANAGEMENT?  
12 A. No.  
13 Q. WERE THERE ANY CHANGES MADE IN THE QA PROGRAM AFTER  
14 THE WELDING INSPECTOR CONCERNS AND THE TASK FORCE  
15 INVESTIGATION OF THESE CONCERNS?  
16 A. Yes.  
17 Q. DESCRIBE THE CHANGES OF WHICH YOU ARE AWARE IN THE QA  
18 PROGRAM.  
19 A. While there were several changes made, one that comes to mind was  
20 that Art Allum was put in Charles Baldwin's position.  
21 Q. THE WELDING INSPECTOR CONCERNS HAVE BEEN  
22 CHARACTERIZED AS CONCERN ABOUT THE QUALITY AND  
23 SAFETY OF CONSTRUCTION AT CATAWBA. DO YOU AGREE OR  
24 DISAGREE WITH THAT CHARACTERIZATION?  
25 A. I disagree with the characterization. I believe that the plant is  
26 built with great quality and safety.  
27 Q. DO YOU BELIEVE THAT THE CATAWBA PROJECT IS BEING  
28 CONSTRUCTED SAFELY?

1 A. I believe that Catawba is being built safely.

2 Q. IN YOUR VIEW, HAS THE QA PROGRAM BEEN EFFECTIVE WHILE  
3 YOU HAVE WORKED AS AN INSPECTOR AT CATAWBA?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. ARE YOU AWARE OF ANY DEFICIENCIES IN CONSTRUCTION OR IN  
6 THE QA PROGRAM WHICH WOULD CAUSE YOU TO QUESTION  
7 WHETHER CATAWBA IS SAFELY BUILT?

8 A. No.

9 Q. IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD TO YOUR  
10 TESTIMONY?

11 A. No.

12 Q. DO YOU CURRENTLY HAVE ANY CONCERNS ABOUT THE  
13 FUNCTIONING OF THE QA PROGRAM?

14 A. NO.

15

16

17

18 I hereby certify that I have read and understand this document, and  
19 believe it to be my true, accurate and complete testimony.

20

21

22

23

Richard B. Childers

Richard B. Childers

24

25 Sworn to and subscribed before me  
26 this 20th day of September, 1983.

27

28

29

30

Linda W. LeGrande  
Notary Public

31

32 Commission Expires March 7, 1993