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**DUKE POWER**

May 20, 1997

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Document Control Desk  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: McGuire Nuclear Station  
Docket Nos. 369, 370  
NRC Inspection Report 50-369/96-10,  
50-370/96-10, Commitment Clarification

On November 30, 1996, the NRC completed an inspection at McGuire which was documented in NRC Inspection Report 50-369/96-10 and 50-370/96-10. The purpose of this letter is to provide clarification of a statement documented in Section M2.2, "125 VDC Vital Battery Modified Performance Test."

Section M2.2 states in part, "To provide additional assurance that the installed battery banks performance would not degrade over time, the licensee committed to perform additional testing of the sample cells from the EVCB and EVCD batteries." The statement requires clarification regarding the additional testing that is planned by McGuire. Additional testing is planned to be performed on degraded cells from vital battery banks EVCC and EVCA. These cells will undergo destructive test/analysis at Argonne National Laboratory to facilitate the determination of the root cause of the battery capacity loss. In addition, McGuire is participating in a test conducted by the AT&T Round Cell Nuclear Utility User's Council by providing three cells to the Conshohocken Test Facility to be tested along with other cells from the industry to determine the charge recovery characteristics following multiple shallow discharges.

Should this clarification of these plans create any concerns or questions on the part of the NRC or their inspectors, please direct them to Kay Crane, McGuire Regulatory Compliance at (704) 875-4306.

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*H.B. Barron*

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