

July 29, 1997

Mr. M. S. Tuckman  
Senior Vice President  
Nuclear Generation  
Duke Power Company  
P. O. Box 1006  
Charlotte, NC 28201

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SUBJECT: CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION - ISSUANCE OF EXEMPTION TO 10 CFR 70.24,  
CRITICALITY ACCIDENT REQUIREMENTS (TAC M97861 AND M97862)

Dear Mr. Tuckman:

The Commission has issued the enclosed exemption from certain requirements of 10 CFR 70.24 regarding criticality accident requirements. This exemption is related to your application dated February 4, 1997, as supplemented by letter of March 19, 1997. This exemption relieves Catawba from the requirements of 10 CFR 70.24(a)(1) and (2) regarding the detection, sensitivity, and coverage capabilities of the criticality monitors, and from (a)(3) regarding emergency procedures for each area in which licensed special nuclear material is handled, used, or stored. The Safety Evaluation supporting the exemption provides details of the technical basis.

A copy of the Exemption and the supporting Safety Evaluation by the staff are enclosed. The Exemption is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Peter S. Tam, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate II-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-413 and 50-414

Enclosures: 1. Exemption  
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

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*ADP 7/15/97*  
*To be issued after EA is published*  
*DF01*  
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OFFICE	PDII-2/PM	PDII-2/LA	PDII-2/RD	OGC	DRPE/D	ADP 7/22
NAME	PTam:cn	LBerry	HBerkow	JHill	BBoger	RTimmerman
DATE	7/29/97	7/29/97	7/22/97	7/11/97	7/16/97	7/24/97

OFFICE	NRR/D
NAME	S. Collins
DATE	7/29/97

DOCUMENT NAME: G:\CATAWBA\CAT97861.EX

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peter S. Tam".

Peter S. Tam, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate II-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-413 and 50-414

Enclosures: 1. Exemption  
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

Catawba Nuclear Station  
Units 1 and 2

cc:

Mr. M. S. Kitlan  
Regulatory Compliance Manager  
Duke Power Company  
4800 Concord Road  
York, South Carolina 29745

Mr. Paul R. Newton  
Legal Department (PB05E)  
422 South Church Street  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28242-0001

J. Michael McGarry, III, Esquire  
Winston and Strawn  
1400 L Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005

North Carolina Municipal Power  
Agency Number 1  
1427 Meadowood Boulevard  
P. O. Box 29513  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27626-0513

Mr. T. Richard Puryear  
Owner's Group (NCEMC)  
Duke Power Company  
4800 Concord Road  
York, South Carolina 29745

County Manager of York County  
York County Courthouse  
York, South Carolina 29745

Richard P. Wilson, Esquire  
Assistant Attorney General  
South Carolina Attorney General's  
Office  
P. O. Box 11549  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Piedmont Municipal Power Agency  
121 Village Drive  
Greer, South Carolina 29651

Dayne H. Brown, Director  
Division of Radiation Protection  
N.C. Department of Environment,  
Health and Natural Resources  
P. O. Box 27687  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611-7687

North Carolina Electric Membership  
Corporation  
P. O. Box 27306  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611

Senior Resident Inspector  
Route 2, Box 179 N  
York, South Carolina 29745

Regional Administrator, Region II  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Atlanta Federal Center  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W., Suite 23T85  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Max Batavia, Chief  
Bureau of Radiological Health  
South Carolina Department of  
Health and Environmental Control  
2600 Bull Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Mr. G. A. Copp  
Licensing - EC050  
Duke Power Company  
526 South Church Street  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28242-0001

Saluda River Electric  
P. O. Box 929  
Laurens, South Carolina 29360

Ms. Karen E. Long  
Assistant Attorney General  
North Carolina Department of Justice  
P. O. Box 629  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602

Elaine Wathen, Lead REP Planner  
Division of Emergency Management  
116 West Jones Street  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603-1335

Mr. William R. McCollum  
Site Vice President  
Catawba Nuclear Station  
Duke Power Company  
4800 Concord Road  
York, South Carolina 29745