DEC 1 2 1988

Docket Nos.: 50-269, 50-270, 50-287

50-369, 50-270

50-413, 50-414

Mr. William S. Len Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer Duke Power Company 422 South Church Street Charlotte, North Carolina 28242 Distrubution Docket File Local PDR Reading File MRood DMatthews

NRC PDR OGC 15-B-18 **HPastis** DHood SVarga GLainas EJordan MNBB-3302 ACRS(10) H-1016 BGrimes 9-A-2 DCrutchfield 12-G-18 JSneizek 12-G-18

TMurley 12-G-18 KJabbour CATAWBA, MCGUIRE, OCONEE PLANT FILE

Dear Mr. Lee:

SUBJECT: LOSS OF DECAY HEAT REMOVAL

We have just issued Generic Letter 88-17 which addresses the loss of decay heat removal (DHR) during nonpower operation.

This letter was issued because of the potential serious consequence of loss of shutdown cooling concurrent with significant core decay heat. Further, it is our belief that the industry as a whole has not aggressively responded to resolve the concern following its identification in our earlier Generic Letter 87-12. In particular, the industry's response to the Generic Letter 87-12 was deficient in the areas of (1) prevention of accident initiation, (2) mitigation of accidents before they potentially progress to core damage, and (3) control of radioactive material if a core damage accident should occur. Generic Letter 88-17 prescribes expeditious actions which should immediately ease the concerns; and parallel, but longer term, programmed enhancements which effectively address the root cause of the problems and permit greater flexibility in operation.

We consider this issue to be of high priority and request that you assure that your organization addresses it accordingly.

Sincerely,

Original signed by Thomas E. Murley

Thomas E. Murley, Director Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

*SEE PREVIOUS CONCURRENCES

*PDII-3 *PD11-3 *PD11-3 *PD11-3 *PDII-3 MRood DHood: SW KJabbour **HPastis** DMatthews. 10/25/88 10/25/88 11/01/88 10/25/88 11/02/88 ADE THE DC Archfield KOYDRPR2:NRR D: BRP DR: NRR Svarga Blaines Murley 15 metzek 1/1/88 11/9/88 /88 #11

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Docket File Local PDR Reading File

Distrubution

NRC PDR OGC 15-B-18

Mr. William S. Lee

Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer

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MRood

JHOPKINS K. JABBORR SVarga D. HOOD

Duke Power Company
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Charlotte, North Carolina 28242

ACRS(10) H-1016 DCrutchfield 12-G-18 TMurley 12-G-18 EJordan MNBB-3302 BGrimes 9-A-2 JSneizek 12-G-18

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Sincerely.

Thomas E. Murley, Director Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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PD11-3 MR600 /0 LO/88

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D:NRR TMurley //88 Mr. William S. Lee Duke Power Company

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