December 11, 1998

Mr. H. B. Barron Vice President, McGuire Site Duke Energy Corporation 12700 Hagers Ferry Road Huntersville, NC 28078-8985

SUBJECT: EVALUATION OF THE FIRST 10-YEAR INTERVAL INSERVICE INSPECTION REQUEST FOR RELIEF NO. 97-004 FOR DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION -MCGUIRE NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1 (TAC NO. MA0707)

Dear Mr. Barron:

By letter dated January 15, 1998, Duke Energy Corporation (DEC/the licensee) requested relief from the requirements of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (ASME Code), Section XI, Table IWB-2500-1, for the McGuire Nuclear Station, Unit 1. Specifically, relief is being requested from Examination Categories B-A and B-D. DEC's July 1, 1998, letter provided responses to the staff's request for additional information of June 5, 1998.

Based on the information provided, and as discussed in the enclosed Safety Evaluation (SE), and the attached Technical Letter Report, the staff concludes that the ASME Code examination requirements are impractical. Therefore, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(i), your request for relief is granted and the alternative imposed. The relief granted is authorized by law and will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security and is otherwise in the public interest giving due consideration to the burden upon the licensee that could result if the requirements were imposed on the facility.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:



Herbert N. Berkow, Director Project Directorate II-2 Division of Reactor Projects - I/II Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-369

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Herbert N. Berkow, Director Project Directorate II-2 Division of Reactor Projects - I/II Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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McGuire Nuclear Station

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