September 11, 1997

Duke Power Company
ATTN: Mr. G. R. Peterson
Site Vice President
Catawba Site
4800 Concord Road
York, SC 29745-9635

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-413/97-10 AND 50-414/97-10

Dear Mr. Peterson:

An NRC inspection was conducted June 23 - July 31, 1997, at you: Catawba facility. This was a Safety System Engineering Inspection (SSEI). The primary objective of this SSEI was to assess the adequacy of calculations, analysis, and other engineering documents that were used to support the residual heat removal system performance during normal and accident or abnormal conditions.

The inspection found the system to be operational overall. The calculations to support system performance were adequate. The quality of later calculations had improved. However, there was still room for improvement as attention to detail appeared to be lacking in some instances. The engineering review of documentation provided for this inspection was very thorough and is considered a strength. The problem identification process was applied in an effective manner. However, management should continue to emphasize their expectations that the design basis be properly maintained.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

Original signed by Harold O. Christensen

Harold O. Christensen Engineering Branch Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-413 and 50-414 License Nos. NPF-35 and NPF-52

Enclosure: NRC Inspection Report 50-413/97-10, 50-414/97-10

cc w/encl: (See page 2)

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cc w/encl:
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(Distribution - See page 3)

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NRC Resident Inspector U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 4830 Corroord Road York, SC 29745

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