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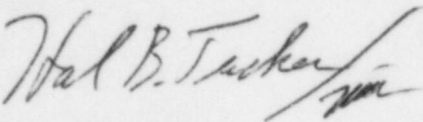
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, D. C. 20555

Subject: Catawba Nuclear Station, Unit 1
Docket No. 50-413

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to Technical Specification 3.3.3.6, please find attached a Special Report concerning the operability of Post-LOCA High Range Radiation Monitors EMF-53 A and B.

Very truly yours,



Hal B. Tucker

JGT/14/sbn

Attachment

xc: Dr. J. Nelson Grace, Regional Administrator
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Mr. P. K. Van Doorn
NRC Resident Inspector
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SPECIAL REPORT

POST-LOCA HIGH RANGE RADIATION MONITORS EMF-53 A AND B INOPERABLE

Sorrento Electronics, manufacturer of the Post-LOCA High Range Radiation Monitor, recently discovered the coaxial cable dielectric did not maintain an acceptable resistance value at 350 degrees F. After receipt of the Sorrento letter on March 12, 1987, the Containment Post-LOCA High Range Radiation monitors were made inoperable, although these monitors were operating normally. Duke Power Design Engineering will receive a follow up letter from Sorrento Electronics containing an evaluation work sheet. Completion of this work sheet should qualify the coaxial cable for the Catawba LOCA design base temperature of 240 degrees F.

Catawba is presently using other radiation monitors as an alternate method to satisfy Technical Specification 3.3.3.6, Accident Monitoring Instrumentation. The radiation monitors being used are, 1 and 2 EMF-39 Containment Atmosphere Noble Gas, 1EMF 17-2EMF2 Reactor Building Manipulator Crane, and 1 and 2 EMF-48 Reactor Coolant Activity Monitor. Health Physics will also provide portable monitoring equipment for containment atmosphere analysis in case of an accident event.

This event is reportable pursuant to Technical Specification 3.3.3.6.