UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
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May 3, 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR: Docket File

FROM: Peter S. Tam, Senior Project Manager, Section 1
Project Directorate II
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION -- FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION, ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED DURING THE ONSITE REVIEW OF 10 CFR 50.59 CHANGES, MAY 10 AND 11, 1999 (TAC MA5226 AND MA5227)

The attached questions were transmitted by fax today to Mr. Gary Gilbert of Duke Energy Corporation (DEC) to prepare him and others for an upcoming onsite review of changes made per 10 CFR 50.59 during 1998 (reference letter, G. R. Peterson to NRC, April 1, 1999). This memorandum and the attachment do not convey a formal request for information or represent an NRC staff position.

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Docket Numbers 50-413 and 50-414

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Comments and Questions

Catawba 10 CFR 50.59 Changes Made in 1998

(Reference letter, G. R. Peterson to NRC, 4/1/99)

For the May 10 and 11, 1999, onsite review of the Catawba changes made under 10 CFR 50.59, please have the following ready:

I. The current procedure regarding 10 CFR 50.59 changes

II. The following 10 CFR 50.59 evaluations:

- Minor Modification CE-08710, Setpoint Change for Instruments NDPG5040 and NDPG5050
- Minor Modifications CE-09316 and CE-09317, Leave Fuel Pool Ventilation System Train Motor Operated Isolation Dampers in the Open Position at All Times
- Minor Modification CE-09584, Remove the Control Room Floor as a Committed Fire Boundary
- Minor Modification CE-09681, Ice Condenser Intermediate Deck Door Enhancements
- Calculation CNC-1553.26-00-0193, Rev. 0, Increased Burnable Poison Rod Assembly B_4C Concentration
- Procedure OP/1/A/6150/001, Revision 80, and OP/1/B/6100/010G, Revision 51, Changing the Reactor Vessel Leakage Detection System Alignment from the Inner O-Ring to the Outer O-Ring

III. Answers for the following questions/comments:

1. Minor Modification CE-07779. This refers to Tech. Spec. LCO 3.4.9.b, which requires 2 x 150 kW = 300 kW. After abandoning the three heaters, heating capacity is now 347 kW. If another set of three heaters fails in the future, "impractical" will no longer be the reason not to repair/replace them. Is impracticality due to high cost? High man-rem? Physically not possible to repair/replace?

2 CE-08578. What system/component are these valves part of?

3 CE-08772. You have shown that the fire barrier is not needed. But it is already in place. Does removing it create unnecessary work?

4 CE-08806. What system/component does this change pertain to?

5 CE-09316 and CE-09317. Would the ventilation system, with the modification, still isolate should there be an accident condition in the area?

6 CE-09326, CE-09872. Please confirm if "WL" refers to the liquid radwaste system. A reader using the NRC Public Document Room would have trouble understanding this term "WL."

7. CE-09998. Please confirm if "NV" refers to the chemical and volume control system. Same comment as 6. Above.

8. CE-10059. Amendment Nos. 175 (Unit 1) and 167 (Unit 2), dated 1/15/99, approved the correction in diesel sump tank capacity. This is not a question, just an observation.

9. CE-10062. Please confirm if "NI" refers to safety injection. Same comment as 6. Above.

10. CE-61118. The licensee faxed both CE-61117 (Unit 1) and CE-61118 to the staff during review that led to Amendment Nos. 177 (Unit 1) and 169 (Unit 2), dated 4/8/99. Thus both these Minor Modifications have been reviewed then. This is not a question, just an observation.

11 CE-61396. The evaluation says "....the bases for this specification will be revised to reflect that the CACST [auxiliary feedwater condensate storage tank] will no longer be a normal CSS [condensate storage system] source." Has TS Bases 3.7.6 been revised?

12 Calc. CNC-1553.26-00-0194, Rev. 1. It appears that the main change is going from single-encapsulated to double- encapsulated? What is the advantage?

13 PIP 0-C98-4098. What section of the UFSAR would be affected when the long-term solution has been made? When would the long-term solution be made?

14 Temporary Modification Work Order 98066402-01. "UFSAR Section 10.4.9.2..... Due to the short duration of the Tempering Flow isolation, less than one fuel cycle, a UFSAR change to reflect this isolation is not required." I checked Section 10.4.9.2 where the auxiliary feedwater nozzle tempering flow is described, and agree with this assessment. This is not a question, just an observation.

15 Miscellaneous Items, Topical Report DPC-NE-2011PA. Reference recent letter, Berkow to Tuckman, 3/8/99). We need to discuss whether these changes could have been made under 10 CFR 50.59. NRC reviewers Lambros Lois et al. took a quick look at the three changes, and argued that change (3) maybe a borderline case for 50.59.

16 CN-50463. An exemption was granted on April 9, 1997, to permit Duke to use biometrics in the security system. Thus I seem to recall that biometric palm readers were installed in the 1997, not 1998, time frame. Please clarify.

17 Procedure OP/1/A/6150/001, Revision 80, and OP/1/B/6100/010G, Revision 51. Do the high revision numbers with these procedures indicate that the inner O-ring frequently leaked? What changes do you plan for UFSAR Section 5.2.5.2.1?

18 Procedure OP/2/A/6200/006, Change 38E and 39A. What is the function of valve 2NI-185A?

19 Pages 212 thru 247. Numerous changes to the UFSAR are to be made. Have these changes been made in the UFSAR update submitted on 4/8/99 submittal?