

DUKE POWER COMPANY

P.O. BOX 33189

CHARLOTTE, N.C. 28242

HAL B. TUCKER  
VICE PRESIDENT  
NUCLEAR PRODUCTION

TELEPHONE  
(704) 373-4531

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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Document Control Desk

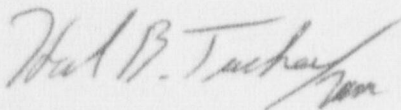
Subject: Catawba Nuclear Station  
Docket Nos. 50-413 and 50-414  
Allowable Mismatches of Power Range  
Instrumentation and Thermal Power

The purpose of this letter is to outline the position Catawba will take with regard to mismatches of indicated reactor power that may occur between the Power Range Instrumentation and Thermal Power indications. This was discussed with Catawba's resident inspectors and T. Dunning of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. This position, had it been applied at the time, would have resulted in no violation of Technical Specification 2.2.1 on April 29, 1987 (Violation 413, 414/87-30-01). Also, Licensee Event Report 414/88-30, dated January 9, 1989 may have been unnecessary.

In our conversations with NRC personnel, it was decided that the equation in Technical Specification 2.2.1 does not apply for power mismatches. The correct Technical Specification LCO is 3.3.1, specifically Action 2 in Table 3.3-1. Also, the allowed mismatch during transient situations can be a 5% difference before the Power Range Instrument channel must be considered inoperable. This is based on an evaluation by the Duke Design Engineering Department. This evaluation determined that a 5% difference is justified during transient situations through the use of existing margins in the various transient and setpoint analyses.

Any questions concerning this may be directed to Peter LeRoy (704) 373-8466.

Very truly yours,



Hal B. Tucker

PGL/IV/43

xc: S. D. Ebnetter, Regional Administrator  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region II  
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900  
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

W. T. Orders  
NRC Resident Inspector  
Catawba Nuclear Station

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