



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

May 16, 1989

Docket Nos.: 50-413, 50-414
50-369, 50-370

Mr. H. B. Tucker, Vice President
Nuclear Production Department
Duke Power Company
422 South Church Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28242

Dear Mr. Tucker:

SUBJECT: SCHEDULAR RELIEF REQUEST RELATED TO NRC BULLETIN 88-11,
"PRESSURIZER SURGE LINE THERMAL STRATIFICATION," ITEM 1.b
(TAC NOS. 68527, 68528, 72142, and 72143)

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the implementation schedule for Item 1.b of NRC Bulletin 88-11, "Pressurizer Surge Line Thermal Stratification" that was mutually agreed upon between the NRC staff and the Westinghouse Owners Group (WOG) during an April 11, 1989 meeting.

By letter dated March 10, 1989, you proposed for the McGuire and Catawba Nuclear Stations an alternate schedule for the completion of the bounding analysis required by Item 1.b of NRC Bulletin 88-11 regarding the design adequacy of the pressurizer surge line, taking into account the effects of thermal stratification. Your proposed schedule for completion is two years from receipt of the bulletin (which was issued December 20, 1988) based upon your participation in the Westinghouse Owners Group (WOG) program.

As a result of the April 11, 1989 meeting, the WOG agreed to notify its membership that licensees with plants operating less than 10 years should, within one year of receipt of the bulletin, complete and have available for NRC audit, their bounding analysis as related to Item 1.b of the bulletin. These plants were also to be advised to submit to the NRC a Justification for Continued Operation (JCO) if the results of the bounding analysis do not confirm the adequacy of the pressurizer surge line for the design life of the plant. Your March 10 letter indicates the JCO for McGuire and Catawba will be submitted to the staff prior to May 10, 1989. This pre-dates the bounding analysis and is not consistent with the WOG discussion; a JCO is required only if the bounding analysis is found not to confirm the surge line for design life. Also, your proposed schedule for Item 1.b analysis completion two years after bulletin receipt is inconsistent with the WOG discussions and should be accelerated to no later than one year after bulletin receipt.

It is our understanding that the WOG will provide you with a "generic" bounding analysis, to which your plant specific variables (e.g., seismic and thermal loadings) will need to be added and incorporated. Your analysis should assess all aspects of thermal stratification and thermal stripping, including bounding evaluations on stresses and fatigue, based on currently available information.

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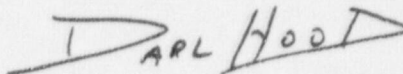
Mr. H. B. Tucker

- 2 -

May 16, 1989

Based upon your participation in the WOG program regarding this issue, it is our expectation that your efforts will be consistent with those of the WOG, but this means that your proposed schedule for Item 1.b analysis must be accelerated accordingly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "DARL HOOD". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping "D" and "H".

Darl S. Hood, Project Manager
Project Directorate II-3
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

Mr. H. B. Tucker

- 2 -

May 16, 1989

Based upon your participation in the WOG program regarding this issue, it is our expectation that your efforts will be consistent with that of the WOG, but this means that your proposed schedule for Item 1.b analysis must be accelerated accordingly.

Sincerely,

15/

Darl S. Hood, Project Manager
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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