

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION II

SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER 61 FORSYTH STREET SW SUITE 23T85 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931

November 21, 2000

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

SUBJECT: REACTOR AND SENIOR REACTOR OPERATOR INITIAL EXAMINATIONS

CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION - 50-413/2001-301 AND 50-414/2001-301

Dear Mr. Peterson:

In a telephone conversation on November 20, 2000, between Mr. John A. Suptela, Supervisor Initial Training, and Mr. D. Charles Payne, Senior Operations Engineer, arrangements were made for the administration of licensing examinations at Catawba Nuclear Station during the weeks of April 2, 2001 and April 16, 2001.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare the examinations based on the guidelines in Revision 8, Supplement 1, of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." The NRC regional office will discuss with your staff any changes that might be necessary before the examinations are administered.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the examination outlines by January 3, 2001. The operating tests, and the supporting reference materials identified in Attachment 2 of ES-201 will be due by January 31, 2001. The written examinations will be due by February 9, 2001. Pursuant to 10 CFR 55.40(b)(3), an authorized representative of the facility licensee shall approve the outlines, examinations, and tests before they are submitted to the NRC for review and approval. All materials shall be complete and ready-to-use. Any delay in receiving the required examination and reference materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the examinations to be rescheduled.

In order to conduct the requested written examinations and operating tests, it will be necessary for your staff to provide adequate space and accommodations in accordance with ES-402, and to make the simulation facility available on the dates noted above. In accordance with ES-302, your staff should retain the original simulator performance data (e.g., system pressures, temperatures, and levels) generated during the dynamic operating tests until the examination results are final.

Appendix E of NUREG-1021 contains a number of NRC policies and guidelines that will be in effect while the written examinations and operating tests are being administered.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit preliminary reactor operator and senior reactor operator license applications (Office of Management and Budget

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