



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION II
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET, SW, SUITE 23T85
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931

March 3, 2010

Mr. J. R. Morris
Site Vice President
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
Catawba Nuclear Station
4800 Concord Road
York, SC 29745-9635

**SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER - CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION
(NRC INSPECTION REPORT 05000413/2010001 AND 05000414/2010001)**

Dear Mr. Morris:

On February 9, 2010, the NRC staff completed its performance review of the Catawba Nuclear Station. Our technical staff reviewed performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the period from January 1 through December 31, 2009. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility.

This performance review and the enclosed inspection plan do not include security information. A separate letter designated and marked as "Official Use Only - Security Related Information" will include the Security Cornerstone performance review and resultant inspection plan.

Overall, Catawba Units 1 and 2 operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and fully met all cornerstone objectives. Plant performance for the most recent quarter, as well as for the first three quarters of the assessment cycle, was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Action Matrix, based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all PIs indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore, we plan to conduct reactor oversight process (ROP) baseline inspections at your facility. We also plan on conducting several infrequently performed inspections, which include: Inspection Procedure 60855.1, Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants; Temporary Instruction (TI) 2515/177, "Managing Gas Accumulation In Emergency Core Cooling, Decay Heat Removal and Containment Spray Systems;" TI 2515/173, "Review of the Implementation of the Industry Groundwater Protection Voluntary Initiative;" TI 2515/172, "Reactor Coolant System Dissimilar Metal Butt Welds;" and operator licensing examinations.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, less those related to physical protection, scheduled through June 30, 2011. The inspection plan is provided to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues well in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections listed in the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the mid-cycle review.

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If circumstances arise which cause us to change the inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact me at (404) 562-4607 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jonathan H. Bartley, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch 1
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos.: 50-413, 50-414, 72-045
License Nos.: NPF-35, NPF-52

Enclosure: Catawba Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/encl: (See page 3)

DEC 3

cc w/encl:
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Catawba
Inspection / Activity Plan
03/01/2010 - 06/30/2011

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
			PSB1EP - EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE		3
1,2	03/08/2010	03/12/2010	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation	
1,2	03/08/2010	03/12/2010	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1,2	03/08/2010	03/12/2010	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			TFPI 805 - TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION		6
1,2	04/05/2010	04/08/2010	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
1,2	04/26/2010	04/30/2010	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
1,2	05/10/2010	05/14/2010	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
			TI-177 - TI-177 GASEOUS INTRUSION		3
1	07/12/2010	07/16/2010	IP 2515/177	Managing Gas Accumulation In Emergency Core Cooling, Decay Heat Removal & Containment Spray System	
			OL RQ - REQUAL INSPECTION		4
1,2	07/19/2010	07/24/2010	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program	
			PSB1-RP - RP GROUNDWATER PROTECTION		1
1,2	08/16/2010	08/20/2010	IP 2515/173	Review of the Implementation of the Industry Ground Water Protection Voluntary Initiative	
			PSB1-RP - RP OCCUPATIONAL BASELINE WEEK 1		2
1,2	09/20/2010	09/24/2010	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1,2	09/20/2010	09/24/2010	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1,2	09/20/2010	09/24/2010	IP 71124.03	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
1,2	09/20/2010	09/24/2010	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1,2	09/20/2010	09/24/2010	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			EB3ISI - UNIT 2 INSERVICE INSPECTION		1
2	09/27/2010	10/01/2010	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
			EB3TI172 - EB3 RX COOLANT SYSTEM DM BUTT WELDS		1
2	09/27/2010	10/01/2010	IP 2515/172	Reactor Coolant System Dissimilar Metal Butt Welds	
			EB3SGISI - UNIT 2 SG INSERVICE INSPECTION		1
2	10/04/2010	10/08/2010	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
			PSB1-RP - RP OCCUPATIONAL BASELINE WEEK 2		3
1,2	10/04/2010	10/08/2010	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1,2	10/04/2010	10/08/2010	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
1,2	10/04/2010	10/08/2010	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
1,2	10/04/2010	10/08/2010	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			PI&R - PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION AND RESOLUTION		5
1,2	11/01/2010	11/05/2010	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems	
1,2	11/15/2010	11/19/2010	IP 71152B	Identification and Resolution of Problems	

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

Enclosure

Catawba
Inspection / Activity Plan
03/01/2010 - 06/30/2011

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
			OLEXAM - INITIAL EXAM - PREP		3
1	11/29/2010	12/01/2010	V23343	CATAWBA/DECEMBER 2010 EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	
			OL EXAM - INITIAL EXAM WEEK 1		3
1	12/13/2010	12/17/2010	V23343	CATAWBA/DECEMBER 2010 EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	
			OL EXAM - INITIAL EXAM WEEK 2		3
1	12/20/2010	12/24/2010	V23343	CATAWBA/DECEMBER 2010 EXAM AT POWER FACILITIES	
			PSB1-RP - RP PUBLIC RADIATION PROTECTION INSP		3
1,2	01/31/2011	02/04/2011	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
1,2	01/31/2011	02/04/2011	IP 71124.06	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
1,2	01/31/2011	02/04/2011	IP 71124.07	Public Radiation Safety	
1,2	01/31/2011	02/04/2011	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	
1,2	01/31/2011	02/04/2011	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			PSB1EP - EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS INSPECTION		1
1,2	03/21/2011	03/25/2011	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Evaluation	
1,2	03/21/2011	03/25/2011	IP 7111403	Emergency Response Organization Augmentation Testing	
1,2	03/21/2011	03/25/2011	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1,2	03/21/2011	03/25/2011	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	
1,2	03/21/2011	03/25/2011	IP 71151-EP01	Drill/Exercise Performance	
1,2	03/21/2011	03/25/2011	IP 71151-EP02	ERO Drill Participation	
1,2	03/21/2011	03/25/2011	IP 71151-EP03	Alert & Notification System	
			PSB1-RP - RP RAD HAZARD ASSESSMENT		1
1,2	05/09/2011	05/13/2011	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
			EB3ISI - UNIT 1 INSERVICE INSPECTION		1
1	05/16/2011	05/20/2011	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	
			EB3SGISI - UNIT 1 SG INSERVICE INSPECTION		1
1	05/23/2011	05/27/2011	IP 7111108P	Inservice Inspection Activities - PWR	

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Enclosure