



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION II
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

May 9, 2011

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

**SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT FOLLOW-UP LETTER FOR CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION
UNIT 1**

Dear Mr. Morris:

As a result of its quarterly review of plant performance, which was completed on April 30, 2011, the NRC updated its assessment of Catawba Nuclear Station Unit 1. The NRC's evaluation consisted of a review of performance indicators and inspection results. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment and our plans for a future inspection at your facility. This letter supplements, but does not supersede, the annual assessment letter issued on March 4, 2011.

The NRC's review of Catawba Unit 1 identified that the Mitigating Systems Performance Index (MSPI), Cooling Water Systems Performance Indicator has crossed the Green-to-White threshold. This was based on the unreliability and unavailability due to a breaker failure on the 1B1 component cooling water pump which occurred in March 2011. The breaker was subsequently replaced.

The NRC determined the performance at Catawba Unit 1 to be in the Regulatory Response Column of the Reactor Oversight Process Action Matrix in the first quarter of 2011. As a result of the Regulatory Response performance, a supplemental inspection will be performed in accordance with Inspection Procedure 95001, "Inspection for One or Two White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area." The objectives of this supplemental inspection are to provide assurance that the root causes and contributing causes of risk-significant performance issues are understood, provide assurance that the extent of condition and extent of cause of risk-significant performance issues are identified, and provide assurance that your corrective actions for risk-significant performance issues are sufficient to address the root and contributing causes and prevent recurrence. We will not schedule the supplemental inspection until you notify us of your readiness for the inspection.

DEC

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be 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).

Please contact Jonathan Bartley at 404-997-4607 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard P. Croteau, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No.: 50-413

License No.: NPF-35

cc: (See page 3)

DEC

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SIGNATURE							
NAME	JBartley	BWilliams	RCroteau				
DATE	05/05/2011		05/09/2011				
E-MAIL COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

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DEC

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Letter to J. R. Morris from Richard P. Croteau dated May 9, 2011

SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT FOLLOW-UP LETTER FOR CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION
UNIT

Distribution w/encl:

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