



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

July 8, 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 continuous review of plant performance, the NRC updated its assessment of Catawba Nuclear Station Unit 1. The NRC's evaluation consisted of a review of performance indicators (PIs) and inspection results. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility. This letter supplements, but does not supersede, the annual assessment letter issued on March 4, 2011, and assessment follow-up letter issued on May 9, 2011.

On July 5, 2011, you submitted revised PI data to the NRC related to the Mitigating Systems Performance Index (MSPI), Cooling Water Systems PI. Your revised data changed the PI value from White to Green based on your subsequent evaluations related to a breaker failure on the 1B1 component cooling water pump which occurred in March 2011. The NRC resident inspectors have verified the validity of the revised PI data using Inspection Procedure (IP) 71151, "Performance Indicator Verification," and the results of their inspection will be included in the second quarter Integrated Inspection Report 05000413,414/2011003 which will be issued by July 29, 2011. As a result, the NRC has determined the performance at Catawba Nuclear Station Unit 1 remained in the Licensee Response Column of the Reactor Oversight Process Action Matrix in the first quarter of 2011. In addition, since the initial White PI data reported was a conservative error, the NRC does not plan to conduct a supplemental inspection in accordance with IP 95001, "Inspection for One or Two White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area," as previously stated in our May 9, 2011, letter.

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).

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

Sincerely,

/George Hopper RA for/

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

Docket No.: 50-413
License No.: NPF-35

cc w/encl:

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