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October 25, 2005

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

SUBJECT: Duke Energy Corporation

Catawba Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2
Docket Numbers 50-413 and 50-414

McGuire Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2
Docket Numbers 50-369 and 50-370

Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2, and 3
Docket Numbers 50-269, 50-270, and 50-287

Withdraw of Request to use an Alternative to the ASME Boiler and
Pressure Vessel Code, Section XI and 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(4)(ii) in
accordance with 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i)
Relief Request 05-GO-001

By letter dated March 11, 2005, Duke Energy Corporation (Duke) requested NRC approval of an alternative to the requirements of the 1998 Edition through the 2000 Addenda of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section XI for scheduling various inservice inspection intervals at Oconee, McGuire, and Catawba Nuclear Stations.

Duke has decided to withdraw Relief Request 05-GO-001. This decision is based, in part, on Duke's decision to use a recently issued ASME Interpretation (File #IN05-09). A copy of the ASME letter responding to our inquiry on this subject is provided in Attachment #1. Using this interpretation will allow us to start the Catawba Unit 2 3rd inservice inspection interval prior to completing the 2nd inspection interval. By starting the 3rd interval before October 31, 2005, Duke will be permitted to use the 1998 Edition with the 1999 and 2000 Addenda for this interval, in lieu of the 2001 Edition with the 2002 and 2003 Addenda.

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If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Mary Hazeltine at (704) 382-5880.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James R. Morris". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

James R. Morris

Attachments

xc w/att: W. D. Travers, Regional Administrator
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region II
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center 23T85
61 Forsyth St., SW
Atlanta, GA 30303

L. N. Olshan (Addressee only)
NRC Senior Project Manager (ONS)
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Washington, DC 20555-0001

J. J. Shea (Addressee only)
NRC Senior Project Manager (MNS)
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NRC Project Manager (CNS)
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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M. E. Shannon, NRC Senior Resident Inspector (ONS)
J. B. Brady, NRC Senior Resident Inspector (MNS)
E. F. Guthrie, NRC Senior Resident Inspector (CNS)

Duke Energy Corporation, Request for Alternative
Serial No. 05-GO-001, Attachment 1, Page 1 of 1



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August 17, 2005

Mark J. Ferlisi
Duke Energy Corporation
526 S. Church St.
Charlotte, NC 28201-1006

Subject: ASME BPVC Section XI, 1995 Edition with the 1996 Addenda through the 2004
Edition with 2005 Addenda, IWA-2430 (d)(1)

File #: IN05-09

Dear Mr. Ferlisi:

Our understanding of the question in your letter and our reply are as follows:

Question: Does IWA-2430(d)(1) permit an Owner to start a successive interval prior to
completing the preceding interval, if the successive interval is not altered by
more than 1 year from the original pattern of intervals and exams performed to
satisfy the requirements of either the preceding or successive interval are not
credited to both intervals?

Reply: Yes.

Sincerely,

Shannon Burke, Secretary
SC XI Interpretation Committee
212-591-8514
212-591-8502 fax
burkes@asme.org

CC: Joel Feldstein
Rick Swayne
Guido Karcher
Gary Park