

# CATEGORY 1

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SUBJECT: Submits response to RAIs re GL 97-01, "Degradation of CR Drive Mechanism Nozzle & Other Vessel Closure Head Penetrations."

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December 21, 1998

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Document Control Desk  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: Catawba Nuclear Station Units 1 & 2  
Docket Nos. 50 -413, 414  
TAC Nos. M98554, M98555  
McGuire Nuclear Station Units 1 & 2  
Docket Nos. 50 -369, 370  
TAC Nos. M98573, M98574  
Oconee Nuclear Station Units 1, 2, & 3  
Docket Nos. 50 -269, 270, 287  
TAC Nos. M98579, M98580, M98581  
Response to Requests for Additional  
Information Concerning Generic letter 97-01:  
Degradation of Control Rod Drive Mechanism  
Nozzle and Other Vessel Closure Head  
Penetrations

On August 27, 1998, September 3, 1998 and November 19, 1998, the NRC issued Requests for Additional Information (RAI) for Oconee Nuclear Station Units 1, 2, and 3, Catawba Nuclear Station Units 1 and 2 and McGuire Nuclear Station Units 1 and 2, respectively. These RAIs were to be responded to within the dates specified in the respective letters. In the letters, the NRC encouraged the plants to continue to address these issues in an integrated fashion with their owners groups.

The industry, via NEI, was in the process of developing an integrated response to the RAIs that had been issued; however, this response was not scheduled to be completed

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U.S. NRC  
December 21, 1998  
Page 2

until December 11, 1998. Duke submitted a request for an extension of the response time for Oconee and Catawba Nuclear Stations to these RAIs until January 15, 1999.

On December 11, 1998, NEI submitted to the NRC the RAI industry response to GL 97-01. All enclosures referenced below are contained in the NEI, December 11, 1998 industry submittal. The numbering/sequence of the questions contained in a specific plant RAI may differ in order from the answers contained in the NEI industry submittal. Table 1 contains a cross-reference between the plant specific RAI and the NEI industry submittal.

Oconee Nuclear Station is a participant in the B&W Owners Group, and the responses to the Oconee RAI questions are contained in Enclosure 3 of the NEI submittal.

McGuire and Catawba Nuclear Stations are participants in the Westinghouse Owners Group using the Westinghouse Model discussed in Enclosure 7 of the NEI submittal. The responses to the McGuire and Catawba RAI questions are contained in Enclosure 5 of the NEI submittal.

I declare under penalty of perjury that these statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Allison Jones-Young at (704) 382-3154.

Very truly yours,



M.S. Tuckman  
Executive Vice President  
Nuclear Generation

Attachment: TABLE 1

U.S. NRC  
December 21, 1998  
Page 3

xc:

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TABLE 1

Table 1. Cross Reference for Matching Specific Plant RAI to NEI Submittal

Nuclear Station (Units)	Specific Plant RAI Questions (Question #)	Corresponding Question in NEI Submittal (Question #)
Oconee	1	Enclosure 3 Question 1
Units 1,2, and 3	2	Enclosure 3 Question 2
	3	Enclosure 3 Question 3
	4	Enclosure 3 Question 4
	5	Enclosure 3 Question 5
Catawba and McGuire	1a.	Enclosure 5, Section I, Question 4
Units 1 and 2	1b.	Enclosure 5, Section I, Question 2
	1c.	Enclosure 5, Section I, Question 3
	1d.	Enclosure 5, Section I, Question 1
	2	Enclosure 5, Section I, Question 5
	3	Enclosure 5, Section II, Question 1