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DUKE POWER

October 25, 1993

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Document Control Desk

Subject: McGuire Nuclear Station
Docket Numbers 50-369 and -370
Catawba Nuclear Station
Docket Numbers 50-413 and -414
Technical Specification Change to Reduce Required
Minimum Measured Reactor Coolant System Flow

Attached is a proposed revision to the Technical Specifications of the McGuire and Catawba Nuclear Stations, to reduce the required minimum measured reactor coolant system flow from 385,000 gallons per minute to 382,000 gpm. There are two reasons, largely independent of each other, which make this necessary. Degrading steam generator tubes in McGuire Units 1 and 2, and Catawba Unit 1, have necessitated that tubes be plugged or sleeved, which reduces available flow area in the steam generators and consequently reduces flow through the core. In addition, a hot leg temperature streaming phenomenon has affected the ability to accurately measure flow. The steam generators in the three affected units are scheduled to be replaced, beginning in 1995. Catawba Unit 2 has not experienced the level or rate of degradation that the other three units have, and this change to reduce required flow is not applicable to Catawba Unit 2. There are currently no plans to replace the steam generators in this unit. The flow measurement difficulties caused by the temperature streaming phenomenon will be addressed in a separate submittal.

An additional change in Technical Specification 2.1.1 refers to the Departure from Nucleate Boiling Ratio (DNBR) and centerline fuel temperature as Limiting Conditions for Operation, rather than a reference to Figure 2.1-1. These parameters are considered to more accurately reflect the requirements of 10 CFR 50.36. Figure 2.1-1 has also been revised to reflect acceptable operation based on the DNBR limit. This change is applicable to both units at each of the two stations.

The change to Technical Specification 2.1.1 is not requisite to,

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nor dependent upon, the change to reduce required flow. Figure 2.1-1, which is referenced by the Specification, was redrawn as a result of the flowrate change; this was considered an opportunity to correct the misleading nature of the figure. The change is consistent with the new Standard Babcock & Wilcox Technical Specifications presented in NUREG-1430. If, however, this change threatens to impact the review schedule for the portion of this amendment request related to the reduction of required minimum measured flow, we will defer our application for the change to Technical Specification 2.1.1, and amend the submittal accordingly.

Approval of this change is requested by the time Catawba Unit 1 begins Cycle 8, currently scheduled for December 24, 1993.

Please note that hardware changes to accommodate revised Overpower Delta-T and Overtemperature Delta-T setpoints will be required when the change to reduce minimum measured flow is approved. Therefore, it is requested that the changes be made effective 30 days from the date of issuance; or, for a unit that is shutdown, upon startup.

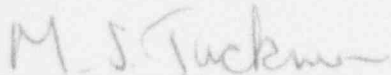
The marked-up Technical Specification pages are contained in Attachment I, a Justification and Safety Analysis in Attachment II, and a "No Significant Hazards" analysis in Attachment III.

Note that when the changes are approved, the Technical Specifications for Catawba Unit 1 will be different from Unit 2 with regard to RCS flow. The page numbers will be differentiated (e. g., 2-A4 for Unit 1 vs. 2-B4 for Unit 2), and the Specifications will be printed on differently colored paper.

By copy of this letter, the States of North Carolina and South Carolina have been notified of the proposed amendment.

If any additional information is required, please call Scott Gewehr at (704) 382-7581.

Very truly yours,



M. S. Tuckman

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M. S. Tuckman, being duly sworn, states that he is Senior Vice President of Duke Power Company; that he is authorized on the part of said Company to sign and file with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission this revision to the McGuire Nuclear Station Facility Operating Licenses NPF-9 and NPF-17, and to the Facility Operating Licenses NPF-35 and NPF-52 of the Catawba Nuclear Station; and that all the statements and matter set forth herein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge.

M. S. Tuckman
M. S. Tuckman, Senior Vice President

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th day of October,
1993

Mary P. Adams
Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

JAN. 22, 1996