

DUKE POWER COMPANY

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January 31, 1983

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

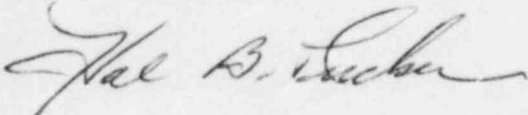
Attention: Ms. E. G. Adensam, Chief
Licensing Branch No. 4

Re: Catawba Nuclear Station
Docket Nos. 50-413 and 50-414

Dear Mr. Denton:

As a followup to a November 22, 1982 meeting between representatives from the NRC Licensee Qualification Branch and Duke Power Company, attached are clarifications of Duke's plans for training for mitigating core damage and for the cold license certification program.

Very truly yours,



Hal B. Tucker

ROS/php
Attachment

cc: Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Regional Administrator
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
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Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Mr. P. K. Van Doorn
NRC Resident Inspector
Catawba Nuclear Station

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cc: Mr. Jesse L. Riley
Carolina Environmental Study Group
854 Henley Place
Charlotte, North Carolina 28207

Mr. Henry A. Presler, Chairman
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Environmental Coalition
943 Henley Place
Charlotte, North Carolina 28207

Duke Power Company
Catawba Nuclear Station

Training for Mitigating Core Damage

In accordance with NUREG-0737, Item II.B.4, operating personnel from the plant manager through the operating chain to the licensed operators will receive training for mitigating core damage.

Cold License Certification Program

Course Description

A comparison of the Cold License Certification programs utilized before and after January 1, 1983 is shown below.

	<u>Before 1983</u>	<u>After January 1, 1983</u>
Observation training at an operating nuclear station	80 to 160 hrs. ¹	480 hrs.
Plant & classroom training	10 - 13 wks.	16 - 24 wks. ²
Simulator training ³ and evaluation	13 wks.	6 wks.
Total	25 to 30 wks.	34 to 42 wks.

¹ Depending on previous experience

² Depends on fuel load date and NRC exam date

³ On McGuire simulator

Background

As early as 1978 Catawba Nuclear Station requested a waiver of simulator examination on the McGuire simulator as part of the licensing process. This request was made in light of significant differences between McGuire and Catawba control boards, system design, and operating procedures. Members of the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Operator Licensing Branch agreed to the waiver at that time, and again at a meeting on July 1, 1982.

Cold Licensing Certification utilized the McGuire Nuclear Station and simulator because of its operational condition and availability during Catawba Nuclear Station construction. It is now felt that the state of completion and procedure availability of Catawba would enhance the knowledge of the operators to a greater degree than would further contact with McGuire.

Justification

The present Cold License Certification program incorporates changes which accomplish the following:

- 1) Increased experience in an operating power plant.
- 2) Instruction on Catawba specific systems and procedures instead of McGuire.
- 3) Plant walk-throughs and procedure walk-throughs using the Catawba control board instead of McGuire specifics.
- 4) Some simulator training allowing candidates to make reactivity changes, observe, analyze and take corrective action on selected malfunctions. Control board and procedural differences will not allow full implementation of Catawba Nuclear Station procedures on the McGuire simulator, but transient responses will be similar at Catawba.

These changes are made to effect a more detailed knowledge of Catawba Nuclear Station systems, components and procedures prior to Licensing than could be obtained by learning McGuire specifics first. Rather than certifying the operator's technical competency based on his knowledge of McGuire, we prefer to base the certification on the plant he will ultimately operate when possible.