

DUKE POWER COMPANY

P.O. BOX 33189
CHARLOTTE, N.C. 28242

HAL B. TUCKER
VICE PRESIDENT
NUCLEAR PRODUCTION

TELEPHONE
(704) 373-4531

February 28, 1983

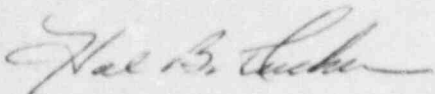
Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Regional Administrator
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street, Suite 3100
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Re: Catawba Nuclear Station
Unit 1
Docket No. 50-413

Dear Mr. O'Reilly:

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55e, please find attached a Supplemental Response
Significant Deficiency Report SD 413/82-17.

Very truly yours,



Hal B. Tucker

RWO/php
Attachment

cc: Director
Office of Inspection & Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

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

Mr. Robert Guild, Esq.
Attorney-at-Law
P. O. Box 12097
Charleston, South Carolina 29412

Palmetto Alliance
2135½ Devine Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29205

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DUKE POWER COMPANY
CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION

Supplemental Report on Significant
Deficiency SD 413/82-17

The following information supplements our report dated September 3, 1982. This information is submitted in order to address the possibility that similar defects could have gone undetected.

Duke's past practice was to evaluate base metal indications to verify that such indications met the requirements of the material specification and ASME Section III base metal standards. When indications were determined to be within acceptance standards for the required NDE method, they were accepted as meeting Code. In addition, when unusual conditions were discovered in base materials, the film reviewers practice was to consult the Level III Examiner for guidance. In this particular instance, Duke considered the indication to be acceptable under these guidelines; however, Duke interpreted the indication to be less severe than the interpretation by the ANI and NRC. At the request of the ANI and NRC, Duke continued the evaluation to the point of completely removing the indication. Upon removal of the indication, it became evident that the indication was more extensive than originally determined by Duke. As a result, Duke instituted a more conservative approach to evaluation of base metal indications detected by radiography. This method of evaluation has been added to radiography procedures and radiographic examiners have been instructed in its use.

In addition, Duke contracted a consultant to perform an independent evaluation. The evaluation describes the condition as being extremely unusual and concludes that the indication would not be expected to result in valve failure. Further, under extreme conditions, if failure had occurred, the failure mode would have been one of leakage as opposed to catastrophic failure. Based on our past practice, the unusualness of the indication, and the corrective actions already undertaken, Duke concludes that no significant defects exist in the erected plant and the review of previously accepted radiographs is not necessary.