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DUKE POWER

May 16, 1995

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

Subject: Catawba Nuclear Station, Unit 2
Docket No. 50-414
Request for Relief Serial Number 95-02

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to 10CFR50.55a(g)(5)(iii), please find attached Request for Relief 95-02. The purpose of this relief request is to seek relief from the requirement to perform a visual examination (VT-3) for one of two reactor coolant system (NC) pressurizer spray valves, one of four residual heat removal system (ND) pump suction isolation valves, and one of four cold leg accumulator (NI) discharge isolation valves.

The basis for this relief request is contained in the attachment. Catawba requests a timely review of this relief request, as these valves are scheduled to be examined during the Unit 2 end-of-cycle 7 refueling outage scheduled to begin on September 25, 1995. Accordingly, Catawba is requesting NRC approval of this request by September 1, 1995.

Should you have any questions concerning this relief request, please call L.J. Rudy at (803) 831-3084.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'D.L. Rehn', written over a horizontal line.

D.L. Rehn

LJR/s

Attachment

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xc (with attachment):

S.D. Ebnetter, Regional Administrator
Region II

R.J. Freudenberger, Senior Resident Inspector

R.E. Martin, Senior Project Manager
ONRR

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bxc (with attachment).

Z.L. Taylor

L.J. Rudy

J.E. Cherry

Document Control File 801.01

Group File 801.01

ELL-EC050

NCMPA-1

NCEMC

PMPA

SREC

DUKE POWER COMPANY

STATION CATAWBA

UNIT 2

10-YEAR INTERVAL REQUEST FOR RELIEF NO. 95-02

I. System/Component(s) for Which Relief is Requested:

ASME Section XI Code Class:1

Examination Category: B-M-2

Valves - Reactor Coolant System(NC) - Valve Body Internal Surfaces

Weld Numbers

Item Numbers

2NC-27

B12.050.002A

2NC-29

B12.050.002B

ASME Section XI Code Class:1

Examination Category: B-M-2

Valves - Residual Heat Removal System(ND) - Valve Body Internal Surfaces

Weld Numbers

Item Numbers

2ND-1B

B12.050.003A

2ND-2A

B12.050.003B

2ND-36B

B12.050.003C

2ND-37A

B12.050.003D

ASME Section XI Code Class:1

Examination Category: B-M-2

Valves - Safety Injection System(NI) - Valve Body Internal Surfaces

Weld Numbers

Item Numbers

2NI-54A

B12.050.004A

2NI-65B

B12.050.004B

2NI-76A

B12.050.004C

2NI-88B

B12.050.004D

II. Code Requirement:

ASME Section XI, Examination Category B-M-2, Pressure Retaining Welds In Pump Casings And Valve Bodies, Table IWB-2500-1, Item No. B12.50 requires a Visual, VT-3 Examination of Valve Body Internal Surfaces, exceeding 4 inch nominal pipe size. Examinations are limited to one valve within each group of valves that are of the same constructional design, manufacturing method, and that perform similar functions in the system.

III. Code Requirement from which Relief is Requested:

Relief is requested from performing the Code-required Visual, VT-3 Examination on one of the valves, in each group of valves identified above.

IV. Basis for Relief:

Since the Code allows deferral of this examination to the end of the interval, each group of valves was scheduled for examination during the First Ten Year Inspection Interval so that the Visual, VT3 Examination could be performed in conjunction with a scheduled maintenance activity where disassembly of a valve body in each group was required. The valves in the three groups from which relief from the Visual, VT3 Examination is requested have not been disassembled during the First Ten Year Inspection Interval for a scheduled maintenance activity. These valves, which are located in a high radiation area, are functioning properly and there is no operating history of any significant problems which would warrant concern. There are no current plans to disassemble any of the valves in these three groups.

V. Alternate Examinations or Testing:

No alternate examinations are proposed to be performed on these valve bodies during the First Ten Year Inspection Interval.

VI. Justification for the Granting of Relief:

This request for relief is based on the requirements of the 1989 Edition of ASME Section XI, which is the latest edition of the Code adopted by 10 CFR 50.55a(b)(2). The 1989 Edition of ASME Section XI, Table IWB-2500-1, Examination Category B-M-2, Valve Bodies, Exceeding NPS 4, Note 2, states that examinations are required only when a valve is disassembled for maintenance, repair, or volumetric examination. Duke Power Company feels that the words in the 1989 Edition clarify the examination requirements intended in the 1980 Edition of ASME Section XI. During the Second Ten Year Inspection Interval, these examinations shall be scheduled to be performed each time disassembly of a valve body in these three groups is required during a normal maintenance activity.

Although the examination requirements of ASME Section XI, 1980 Edition including W81 Addenda, could not be met for the First Ten Year Inspection Interval, it is Duke Power Company's opinion that this will not endanger the health and safety of the general public. The past operating history and performance of these valves has revealed no significant problems. In addition, each valve receives a Visual Examination, VT-2 on the external surfaces during each refueling outage. This examination is performed during normal plant start-up and is used to verify valve integrity and to insure there is no leakage.

A similar Request For Relief, Serial No. 94-03, has been granted for Catawba Unit 1. (Reference NRC acceptance letter dated February 16, 1995 - TAC No. M91175.)

VII. Implementation Schedule:

These examinations will be scheduled to be performed during the Second Ten Year Inspection Interval each time these valve bodies are disassembled for maintenance, repair, or volumetric examination.

Evaluated By: J. E. Cherry Date 5/9/95

Reviewed By: J. O. Barlow Date 5/10/95