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November 1, 1984

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
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BRANCH

James L. Kelley, Chairman
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
Panel
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dr. Paul W. Purdom
235 Columbia Drive
Decatur, Georgia 30030

Dr. Richard F. Foster
P. O. Box 4263
Sunriver, Oregon 97702

Re: Catawba Nuclear Station
Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. 50-413 and 50-414 O L

Gentlemen:

This letter is to inform the Board of a recent change in the schedule for full power operation of Unit 1 at the Catawba Nuclear Station. The change in the schedule was necessitated by the discovery, in the evening of October 23, 1984, of a leak at a thermocouple on the Unit 1 reactor vessel head. This leak required Unit 1 to be placed in cold shutdown for repair, cleanup, and evaluation.

The date for achieving criticality and operation at levels less than 5% of full power is now expected during the first two weeks of December. Under that schedule, additional licensing authority will be necessary from the NRC Staff around December 1, 1984. As we have noted before, a Board Order is necessary a few days before that date in order that the Staff can issue the license in a timely fashion.

Sincerely yours,

Albert V. Carr, Jr.
Albert V. Carr, Jr.

AVCjr/dm
c: Service List

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