

Duke Power Company  
P.O. Box 1006  
Charlotte, NC 28201-1006

M. S. TUCKMAN  
Senior Vice President  
Nuclear Generation  
(704)382-2200 Office  
(704)382-4360 Fax



**DUKE POWER**

April 24, 1996

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

Subject: Catawba Nuclear Station  
Docket Nos. 50 -413,414  
McGuire Nuclear Station  
Docket Nos. 50 -369,370  
Oconee Nuclear Station  
Docket Nos. 50 -269,270,287  
Clarification of Reporting Requirements Under  
10 CFR 50.72(b) (2) (vi)

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Duke Power requests formal approval to use the guidance provided in NUREG-1022, Rev. 1, Second Draft, dated February 1994, Section 3.3.7, "News Release or Other Government Notifications" (50.72(b) (2) (vi)) regarding reportability issues for NRC awareness. In the draft guidance, the NRC has made it clear that the purpose of this reporting provision is to "...ensure the NRC is made aware of issues that will cause heightened public or government concern related to the radiological health and safety of the public or on-site personnel or protection of the environment." Additionally, in the draft, the NRC provides examples of the situations which do not require notification to the NRC.

In the course of day to day activities of the plant, occasionally, parameters fall outside established norms. These exceedances require notification to the state regardless of their potential environmental impact. Currently, Duke is required to make a 4-hour notification to the NRC following a notification to state agencies. This includes such minor environmental problems as the exceedance of fecal coliform limits which involve neither a "health or safety" concern, nor any news releases. Duke believes that the draft guidance in NUREG-1022, Rev. 1, represents the intent of the NRC to

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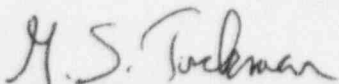
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eliminate unnecessary reporting. Therefore, a four-hour notification to the NRC following each state notification defeats the purpose of the regulation and dilutes the importance of the four-hour reporting requirement.

Accordingly, until a final version to NUREG-1022, Rev. 1 is published, it is requested that Duke be exempted from the 4 hour reporting requirements of 10 CFR 50.72(b)(2)(vi) for those events which are deemed by the Duke Power Environmental Management program to affect neither the health nor the safety of the public.

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact Allison Jones-Young at (704) 382-3154.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "M.S. Tuckman".

M.S. Tuckman  
Senior Vice-President  
Nuclear Generation

xc: S.D. Ebnetter  
Regional Administrator, Region II

E.L. Jordan, AEOD

D.P. Allison, AEOD

V. Nerses, ONRR

R.E. Martin, ONRR

D.E. LaBarge, ONRR

G.F. Maxwell  
Senior Resident Inspector (MNS)

R.J. Freudenberg  
Senior Resident Inspector (CNS)

P.E. Harmon  
Senior Resident Inspector (ONS)