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DUKE POWER

June 7, 1996

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTENTION: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: Duke Power Company

McGuire Nuclear Station - Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. 50-369 and 50-370

Catawba Nuclear Station - Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. 50-413 and 50-414

Response to NRC Bulletin 96-01
Additional Information

In a letter dated April 4, 1996, Duke Power responded to NRC Bulletin 96-01. In this response Duke stated that control rod drag testing would be performed prior to core offload. This letter is to advise the NRC that Duke has revised the plans for performing this testing. For all future outages where the provisions of NRC Bulletin 96-01 apply, the drag testing will be performed in either the reactor vessel or in the spent fuel pool after core offload. Having the option of performing the drag testing in either of these locations will provide scheduling flexibility during the future outages and also allow easier use of vendor resources, if needed. The first scheduled outage where this option may be used is Catawba Unit 1 End-of-Cycle 9 which is set to begin on June 13, 1996.

Duke believes performing the drag testing in the spent fuel pools after core offload is also an acceptable method for satisfying the requested actions of NRC Bulletin 96-01. This conclusion is based upon participation in Westinghouse Owners Group activities associated with NRC Bulletin 96-01, and knowledge of other utilities use of this method to perform this testing.

Please direct comments or questions on this matter to
J. S. Warren at (704) 382-4986.

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Q PDR

TEST 1/0

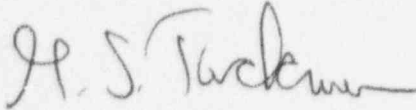
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I declare, under penalty of perjury, that the statements set forth herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Very truly yours,



M. S. Tuckman

MST/JSW

xc: S. D. Ebnetter, Regional Administrator
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region II

V. Nerses, NRC Project Manager (MNS)
P. S. Tam, NRC Project Manager (CNS)
ONRR

K. J. Freudenberger, NRC Resident Inspector (CNS)
G. F. Maxwell, NRC Resident Inspector (MNS)
Duke Nuclear Sites