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September 12, 1985

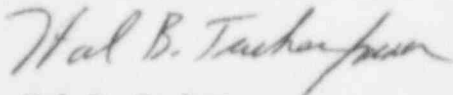
Dr. J. Nelson Grace, Regional Administrator
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

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

Dear Dr. Grace:

Pursuant to Technical Specifications 4.8.1.1.3 and 6.9.2,
please find attached a Special Report concerning the valid
failure of Diesel Generator 1B which occurred on August 13,
1985.

Very truly yours,



Hal B. Tucker

RWO:smh

Attachment

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Dr. J. Nelson Grace, Regional Administrator
September 12, 1985
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cc: Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

NRC Resident Inspector
Catawba Nuclear Station

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SPECIAL REPORT

Diesel Generator 1B Valid Failure

As required by Technical Specification 4.8.1.1.3 and Station Directive 2.8.1 the following information concerns the valid failure which occurred on D/G 1B on August 13, 1985. This valid failure was the second failure within the last 33 valid tests for the Unit 1 Diesel Generators. Please note that as of August 13, 1985, the 1A and 1B Diesel Generators had only completed 33 valid tests (this includes both valid failures).

The failure occurred while the 1B D/G was running in the unloaded condition to allow for the calibration of the visicorder. During the test, several components in the diesel generator control panel failed which resulted in the loss of the generator field. The components which failed were the static voltage regulator, three silicon controlled rectifiers (SCR) and two diodes. At this time, the cause of these component failures is unknown. To correct the malfunction, personnel replaced the faulty components and the 1B D/G was restarted and verified operable. The 1B D/G was declared inoperable at 1610 on 8/13/85 and was subsequently declared operable at 0237 on 8/16/85. Therefore, the 1B D/G was out of service for 58 hours and 27 minutes. At this time, the Surveillance Testing interval is 14 days which is in accordance with Section C.2.d.2 of Regulatory Guide 1.108 (Periodic Testing of Diesel Generator Units used as onsite Electric Power Systems at Nuclear Power Plants) Revision 1.