

DUKE POWER COMPANY

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September 23, 1985

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Ms. E. G. Adensam, Chief
Licensing Branch No. 4

Subject: McGuire Nuclear Station
Docket Nos. 50-369 and 50-370
Temporary Extension of Allowed
Outage Time for Unit 1 VA System

Dear Sir:

My letter of September 20, 1985 transmitted proposed license amendments to facility operating licenses NPF-9 and NPF-17 for McGuire Nuclear Station Units 1 and 2, respectively. The proposed amendments, which were requested to be reviewed and approved under the Emergency License Amendment provision of 10 CFR 50.91 (a)(5), would temporarily increase the time allowed to restore an inoperable unit 1 auxiliary building filtered ventilation exhaust (VA) system train to operable status from 24 hours to 7 days in order to allow adequate time to replace the carbon filter bed. The basis for the proposed amendments and attendant emergency approval request was the failure of a routine 18 month surveillance test on the unit 1 VA System and its subsequent declaration of inoperability at approximately 7:00 a.m. on September 20, 1985. Since 5 to 7 days are required to change out and test the large carbon filter bed, the temporary allowed outage time extension would prevent initiation of a Technical Specification required unit shutdown after 24 hours.

The September 20, 1985 submittal also indicated that Duke Power was trying to locate the source of the bypass leakage which resulted in the failed surveillance test, and should the source be corrected within 24 hours Duke would advise the NRC to void the requested amendment if not yet issued. Among the actions taken to correct the excessive bypass leakage were replacing sample cannisters (which Duke no longer uses as a sampling method) with blank flanges, adding additional carbon to the filter bed which had settled slightly, checking drains and loop seals, and tightening of the bypass dampers. Following these actions the filter was simultaneously retested with two different sets of test devices (the stations equipment and more sophisticated equipment which was recently borrowed), passing on both. Consequently, the unit 1 VA System was declared operable at approximately 4:00 p.m. on September 20, 1985, negating the need for a temporary allowed outage time extension. Mr. Darl Hood of your staff was informed of these results in a telecon on September 20, 1985 with Mr. R. L. Gill, et. al. (DPC), at which time Duke Power requested that the emergency

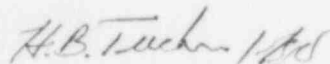
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License amendments request be voided. Duke Power also informed the state of North Carolina of these developments. This letter constitutes formal documentation of Duke's request to void the September 20, 1985 temporary allowed outage time extension submittal. However, it should be noted that the permanent Technical Specification change requested by my September 16, 1985 letter is unaffected by these developments and should be pursued on a timely basis. In addition, certain information in the September 16, 1985 submittal may be useful in the review of the September 20, 1985 request.

Very truly yours,



Hal B. Tucker

PBN/hrp

cc: Dr. J. Nelson Grace, Regional Administrator
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