

50-414



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 27, 1997

Mr. William R. McCollum
Site Vice President
Catawba Nuclear Station
Duke Power Company
4800 Concord Road
York, South Carolina 29745-9635

SUBJECT: CATAWBA NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 2 - SECOND 10-YEAR INSERVICE
INSPECTION PROGRAM AND ASSOCIATED RELIEF REQUESTS (TAC NO. M95255)

Dear Mr. McCollum:

By letter dated February 14, 1996, Duke Power Company submitted its second 10-year inservice inspection (ISI) interval program plan and associated requests for relief for Catawba Nuclear Station, Unit 2. You also provided additional information by letters dated August 19, 1996, and October 23, 1996.

The staff, with technical assistance from its contractor, the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory (INEL) has reviewed and evaluated the information provided by Duke Power Company. The staff's evaluation and conclusions are delineated in the enclosed Safety Evaluation, which includes the Technical Evaluation Report prepared by INEL.

The Catawba Nuclear Station, Unit 2, Second 10-Year Inservice Inspection Program Plan, Revision 1, has been reviewed for: (1) compliance with the appropriate/addenda of Section XI; (2) acceptability of examination sample; (3) correctness of the application of system or component examination exclusion criteria; and (4) compliance with ISI-related commitments identified during the NRC's previous reviews. Based on its review, the staff determines that there are no deviations from requirements or commitments in the Catawba Nuclear Station, Unit 2, Second 10-Year Inservice Inspection Program Plan, Revision 1.

Your proposed alternative to the reactor pressure vessel examinations contained in Request for Relief No. 94-05 to reschedule Examination Category B-D, Items B3.90 and B3.100 welds for the second 10-year interval provides an acceptable level of quality and safety, because it maintains essentially 10 years between examinations. Therefore, the proposed alternative is authorized pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i) as requested.

For Request for Relief No. 94-04, Revision 1, the staff has concluded that the Code requirements are impractical to perform. Compliance with the Code requirements would be an undue burden on the licensee without any compensating increase in the level of quality and safety. The subject components would

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need to be redesigned and replaced. The staff also concluded that your proposed alternative provides reasonable assurance of operational readiness of the subject component. Therefore, relief is granted pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(i) as requested.

Request for Relief No. 96-01 regarding snubbers is being addressed under a separate licensing action (TAC No. M97982).

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Herbert N. Berkow, Director
Project Directorate II-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-414

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/Safety Evaluation only: See next page

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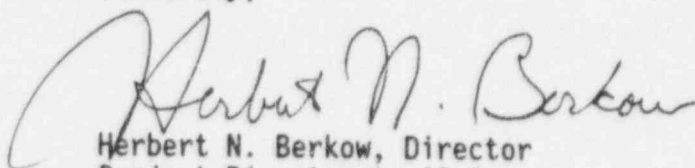
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NAME	P. Tam		L. Berry	E. Hottel	H. Berkow				
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Request for Relief No. 96-01 regarding snubbers is being addressed under a separate licensing action (TAC No. M97982).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Herbert N. Berkow". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Herbert" being more prominent and the last name "Berkow" following in a similar style.

Herbert N. Berkow, Director
Project Directorate II-2
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-414

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/Safety Evaluation only: See next page

Duke Power Company

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