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October 26, 1990

Docket Nos. 50-413, 50-414
License Nos. NPF-35, NPF-52

Duke Power Company
ATTN: Mr. H. B. Tucker, Vice President
Nuclear Production Department
P. O. Box 1007
Charlotte, NC 28201-1007

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NOS. 50-413/90-28 AND 50-414/90-28

This refers to the inspection conducted by J. Ennis of this office on October 1-4, 1990. The inspection included a review of activities authorized for your Catawba facility. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observation of activities in progress.

In addition, an apparent violation was identified and is being considered for escalated enforcement action in accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions" (Enforcement Policy), 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C (1990). The apparent violation pertains to your corrective actions, which appear to have been ineffective in preventing recurrence of a similar violation identified in NRC Inspection Report 413,414/89-23. Accordingly, no Notice of Violation is presently being issued for these inspection findings. Please be advised that the characterization of the apparent violation described in the enclosed inspection report may change as a result of further NRC review.

An enforcement conference to discuss this apparent violation has been scheduled for November 5, 1990. The purposes of this conference are to discuss the apparent violation, its cause and safety significance; to provide you the opportunity to point out any errors in our inspection report; to provide an opportunity for you to present your proposed corrective actions; and to discuss any other information that will help us determine the appropriate enforcement action in accordance with the Enforcement Policy. In particular, we expect you to address the problem involving a licensed operator initialing steps of a safety-related procedure as being completed when in fact they were not. You will be advised by separate correspondence of the results of our deliberations on this matter. No response regarding the apparent violation is required at this time.

Also included in this report is another example of a violation identified in NRC Inspection Report 50-413,414/90-24, involving licensed operators verifying safety-related procedural requirements as being complete when in fact they were not. In your response to that violation (414/90-24-02), please include this example in your evaluation for root cause determination and corrective actions, to preclude recurrence.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by
Luis A. Reyes

Luis A. Reyes, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosure:
NRC Inspection Report

cc w/encl:
J. W. Hampton, Station Manager
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cc w/Inspection Summary:
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(cc w/Inspection Summary cont'd - see page 3)

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bcc w/Inspection Summary: (See page 4)

bcc w/Inspection Summary:

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changed.
MBJ*

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JEnnis
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