



**Duke Power Company**  
*A Duke Energy Company*  
Energy Center  
P.O. Box 1006  
Charlotte, NC 28201-1006

March 3, 2003

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of the Secretary of the Commission  
ATTN: Rulemaking and Adjudications Staff  
Washington D.C. 20555

Subject: Duke Energy Corporation  
Catawba Nuclear Station Units 1 & 2  
Docket Nos. 50-413, 414  
McGuire Nuclear Station Units 1 & 2  
Docket Nos. 50-369, 370  
Oconee Nuclear Station Units 1, 2 & 3  
Docket Nos. 50-269, 270, 287

20 Day Response to NRC Order Establishing Interim  
Inspection Requirements for Reactor Pressure Vessel Heads  
at Pressurized Water Reactors

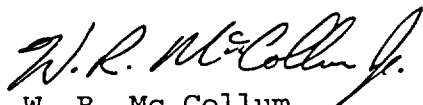
Pursuant to 10 CFR 2.202, this letter provides the Duke Energy Corporation (Duke) 20 Day Response to NRC Order Establishing Interim Requirements for Reactor Pressure Vessel Heads at Pressurized Water Reactors for the Catawba, McGuire and Oconee Nuclear Stations dated February 11, 2003. Duke consents to the requirements contained in the Order for Catawba, McGuire and Oconee Nuclear Stations.

Oconee Nuclear Station has plans to replace the reactor pressure vessel head (RPVH) on each unit at the end of each of the current respective operating cycles. After RPVH replacement, each Oconee Nuclear Station RPVH will be categorized as having low susceptibility based on the calculation defined in paragraph IV A of the Order. The Duke prescribed preservice inspection (beyond American Society of Mechanical Engineers Section III requirements) of each replacement RPVH nozzle includes Ultrasonic testing from the inner diameter surface, Eddy current testing of portions of the tube inside and outside diameter surfaces, and dye penetrant testing of the J-Groove weld surface and stub tube outside diameter surface. These preservice examinations on the Oconee replacement RPVHs satisfy the requirements of a bare metal examination of 100% of the RPVH surface performed during the refueling outage immediately preceding the issuance of the Order as referred to in paragraph IV.C(3) of the Order.

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If you have questions or need additional information, please contact  
Gregory S. Kent at (704)373-6032.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "W. R. Mc Collum Jr." The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

W. R. Mc Collum  
Senior Vice President  
Nuclear Operations

xc:

S.J. Collins  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Director,  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Washington D.C. 20555

L.A. Reyes  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Regional Administrator,  
Region II Atlanta Federal Center  
61 Forsyth St., SW, Suite 23T85  
Atlanta, GA 30303

R.E. Martin  
NRC Project Manager (CNS and MNS)  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Mail Stop O-8 H12  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

L.N. Olshan  
NRC Project Manager (ONS)  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Mail Stop O-8 H12  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

S.M. Shaeffer  
Senior Resident Inspector (MNS)

E.F. Guthrie  
Senior Resident Inspector (CNS)

M.C. Shannon  
Senior Resident Inspector (ONS)

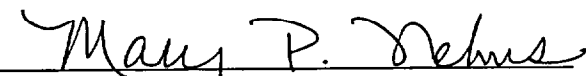
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Assistant General Counsel for Materials Litigation and  
Enforcement  
Washington D.C. 20555

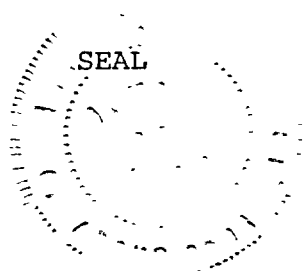
W. R. Mc Collum, affirms that he is the person who subscribed his name to the foregoing statement, and that all the matters and facts set forth herein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
W. R. Mc Collum, Senior Vice President

Subscribed and sworn to me: March 3, 2003  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: JAN 22, 2006  
Date



U.S. NRC  
March 3, 2003  
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bcc: L.F. Vaughn - PB05E  
M.T. Cash - EC050  
C.J. Thomas - MG01RC  
G.D. Gilbert - CN01RC  
L.E. Nicholson - ON03RC  
M.R. Robinson - EC09o  
G.S. Kent - EC050  
J.M. Shuping - EC090  
D.E. Whitaker - EC090  
K.L. Crane - MG01RC  
K.E. Nicholson - CN01RC  
J.E. Smith - ON03RC  
Catawba Master File - CN01DM  
McGuire Master File - MG01DM  
Oconee Master File - ON03DM  
Saluda River Electric Corporation  
NC Municipal Power Agency No. 1  
TR Puryear, NC Electric Membership Corporation - CN03G  
Piedmont Municipal Power Agency  
ELL - EC050