March 2, 2007

R. T. Ridenoure  
Vice President  
Omaha Public Power District  
Fort Calhoun Station FC-2-4 Adm.  
P.O. Box 550  
Fort Calhoun, NE 68023-0550

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER - FORT CALHOUN STATION  
(NRC INSPECTION REPORT 05000458/2007001)

Dear Mr. Ridenoure:

On February 7, the NRC staff completed its performance review of Fort Calhoun Station. Our technical staff reviewed performance indicators for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the period from January 1 through December 31, 2006. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility.

This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include physical protection information. A separate letter designated and marked as "Official Use Only - Security-Related Information" will include the physical protection review and resultant inspection plan.

Overall, Fort Calhoun Station, operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and fully met all cornerstone objectives. Plant performance for the most recent quarter, as well as for the first three quarters of the assessment cycle, was within the Licensee Response column of the NRC's Action Matrix, based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all performance indicators indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Although plant performance was within the Licensee Response column, the significance of an inoperable train of the containment spray system is still under review as part of the Significance Determination Process. The results of our review will be provided by separate correspondence. This issue is not a current safety concern because it was corrected during the recently completed refueling outage.

The NRC staff has identified a substantive crosscutting issue in the human performance area at Fort Calhoun Station. There were a total of 13 Green findings with crosscutting aspects in the human performance area. A crosscutting theme was identified in the area of Work Practices (instances of ineffective use of human error prevention techniques). Five Green findings were related to this theme, affecting the Mitigating Systems and Occupational Radiation Safety cornerstones. These include: the inadvertent pump down of the intake bay resulting in less than the minimum number of required raw water pumps being available, the overpressurization of chemical and volume control system and high pressure safety injection piping, a failure to maintain shutdown cooling in service, and a failure to obtain high radiation area access.
authorization before entering the area. To address these problems, we understand your staff has conducted a root cause determination and formed a cross-disciplinary team to identify potential recommendations for improvements in this area. However, full implementation of these actions is not complete. Therefore, this substantive crosscutting issue will remain open until we determine, through the implementation of focused baseline inspections, that corrective actions implemented in accordance with your improvement initiative have addressed these issues.

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, except those related to physical protection, scheduled through September 30, 2008. The inspection plan is provided to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues well in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last 9 months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the midcycle review.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If circumstances arise which cause us to change this inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact me at (817) 860-8147 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

Jeff Clark, Chief
Project Branch E
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket: 50-285
License: DPR-40

Enclosure:
Fort Calhoun Station Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/enclosure:
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Records Center
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☑ Publicly Available  ☐ Non-Publicly Available  ☐ Sensitive  ☑ Non-Sensitive

R:\_REACTORS\EOC and Midcycle\EOC Assessment Letters\2006 - dated 3-2-07\FCS.wpd

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