



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064**

December 21, 2001

S. K. Gambhir, Division Manager
Nuclear Operations
Omaha Public Power District
Fort Calhoun Station FC-2-4 Adm.
P.O. Box 550
Hwy. 75 - North of Fort Calhoun
Fort Calhoun, Nebraska 68023-0399

**SUBJECT: REQUEST TO RESCHEDULE THE FORT CALHOUN STATION
 OPERATIONAL SAFEGUARDS RESPONSE EVALUATION**

Dear Mr. Gambhir:

Region IV received your letter dated October 12, 2001, requesting that we reschedule the Operational Safeguards Response Evaluation (OSRE) at the Fort Calhoun Station (FCS). Currently, the OSRE is scheduled during the week of March 25, 2002. The OSRE was originally scheduled during the week of September 10, 2001. Your letter of May 4, 2001, requested a postponement of the September 10, 2001, OSRE date. Region IV granted a postponement to March 25, 2002, in our letter dated June 6, 2001.

According to Agency guidance, plants are selected for OSRE inspections on the basis of the following considerations:

- Length of time since the last OSRE
- Past performance
- Significant changes to the security program or the approved plan

Your October 12, 2001, letter stated that you had rescheduled your 2002 refueling outage to May 2002 and that the outage would require a significant expenditure of resources. Your letter further stated that the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks had resulted in additional demands on the station's organization and that a postponement of the OSRE would significantly relieve the strain on Omaha Public Power District's resources. You requested an additional postponement to the third quarter of 2002, or at least six months following the resumption of normal operations from the current heightened security level, whichever is later.

Based on our review of your request and coordination with the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, we have determined that an additional postponement is not justified at this time because: (1) using the current schedule, the OSRE would be completed one to two months prior to your outage, and (2) Region IV cannot predict when the current heightened security level will be reduced, if ever.

S. K. Gambhir

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Nevertheless, it is important to note that some NRC Regions, including Region IV, have postponed several Response to Contingency Event (Inspection Procedure 71130, Attachment 3) and OSRE inspections due to the ongoing security emergency. Based on the need to reschedule the postponed inspections, there could be some slippage/readjustment of FCS's OSRE date. At the present time, it is impossible for us to predict the schedule changes for Calendar Year 2002. Region IV will provide as much advance notice as possible if the current date of your OSRE inspection changes.

Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, please contact me at (817) 860-8215.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Gail M. Good, Chief
Plant Support Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Dockets: 50-285
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cc:
Mark T. Frans, Manager
Nuclear Licensing
Omaha Public Power District
Fort Calhoun Station FC-2-4 Adm.
P.O. Box 550
Hwy. 75 - North of Fort Calhoun
Fort Calhoun, Nebraska 68023-0399

James W. Chase, Division Manager
Nuclear Assessments
Fort Calhoun Station
P.O. Box 550
Fort Calhoun, Nebraska 68023

Richard P. Clemens, Manager - Fort Calhoun Station
Omaha Public Power District
Fort Calhoun Station FC-1-1 Plant
P.O. Box 550
Hwy. 75 - North of Fort Calhoun
Fort Calhoun, Nebraska 68023

S. K. Gambhir

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James R. Curtiss
Winston & Strawn
1400 L. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3502

Chairman
Washington County Board of Supervisors
Washington County Courthouse
P.O. Box 466
Blair, Nebraska 68008

Sue Semerena, Section Administrator
Nebraska Health and Human Services System
Division of Public Health Assurance
Consumer Services Section
301 Centennial Mall, South
P.O. Box 95007
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-5007

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