

March 21, 2002
EN 02-009

OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT
NOTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANT ENFORCEMENT ACTION

Licensee: Nebraska Public Power District (SDP/EA-01-298)
Cooper Nuclear Station (Docket No. 50-298)

Subject: ISSUANCE OF THE FINAL SIGNIFICANCE DETERMINATION FOR A WHITE FINDING AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

This is to inform the Commission that a Notice of Violation associated with a White Significance Determination Process (SDP) finding will be issued on or about March 26, 2002, to Nebraska Public Power District. This White finding was the result of the staff's assessment of the significance of a condition in which the biennial licensed operator requalification written examination was compromised in such a way that both the exam validity and integrity were affected. The process used to validate the examination, given the similarity of examination questions, compromised the integrity of the examinations. Specifically, the licensee developed weekly requalification examinations that were similar to each other, then allowed some operators to validate at least 50 percent of the next weekly examination the day before taking their own examination. The licensee failed to take immediate and appropriate corrective actions when the validation process was questioned by their own staff. The licensee should have suspended the examination process pending the implementation of appropriate corrective actions. The failure to take immediate and appropriate corrective actions increased the significance of this finding from Green to White in accordance with the operator requalification human performance SDP.

It should be noted that the licensee has not yet been specifically informed of the enforcement action. The schedule of issuance and notification is:

Mailing of Notice	March 26, 2002
Telephone Notification of licensee	March 26, 2002

The State of Nebraska will be notified.

Contacts: Chris Nolan, OE, 301-415-2249; James Luehman, OE, 301-415-2741

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**PRELIMINARY INFORMATION - NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE UNTIL
VERIFICATION THAT LICENSEE HAS RECEIVED ACTION**

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NAME	CNolan	JLuehman
DATE	03/21/02	03/21/02

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