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Docket No. 50-298

SEP 27 1976

Nebraska Public Power District  
 ATTN: Mr. J. M. Pilant, Director  
 Licensing and Quality Assurance  
 P. O. Box 499  
 Columbus, Nebraska 68601

Gentlemen:

The Commission has filed the enclosed "Notice of Proposed Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License" with the Office of the Federal Register for publication. The notice relates to your request dated August 9, 1976 for amendment to License No. DPR-46 for the Cooper Nuclear Station to incorporate Technical Specification operating limits associated with the use of 8 x 8 fuel assemblies and to permit operation of Cooper Nuclear Station with modified fuel assembly lower tie plates as part of facility modifications to eliminate in-core vibration of instrument and source tubes.

A copy of our Safety Evaluation on your request will be sent to you when it is completed and will be placed in the public record.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:  
 Dennis L. Ziemann

Dennis L. Ziemann, Chief  
 Operating Reactors Branch #2  
 Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosure:  
 Notice

cc w/enclosure:  
 See next page

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| DATE ➤    | 9/9/76            | 9/9/76     | 9/22/76          | 9/29/76    |  |  |

SEP 27 1976

cc w/enclosure:

Gene Watson, Attorney  
Barlow, Watson & Johnson  
P. O. Box 81686  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68501

Mr. Arthur G. Gehr, Attorney  
Snell & Wilmer  
400 Security Building  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Auburn Public Library  
118 - 15th Street  
Auburn, Nebraska 68305

Mr. William Siebert, Commissioner  
Nemaha County Board of Commissioners  
Nebraska County Courtroom  
Auburn, Nebraska 68305

cc w/enclosure and cy of  
NPPD's filing dtd. 8/9/76:  
Director, Department of Environmental  
Control  
Executive Building, 2nd Floor  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 50-298

NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT  
TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-46 issued to the Nebraska Public Power District (the licensee), for operation of the Cooper Nuclear Power Station (the facility), a boiling water reactor located in Nemaha County, Nebraska and currently authorized for operation at power levels up to 2381 MWt.

In accordance with the licensee's application for a license amendment dated August 9, 1976, the amendment would modify operating limits in the facility's Technical Specifications associated with the use of 8 x 8 fuel assemblies. Also, the amendment would permit operation of the facility with modified fuel assembly lower tie plates as part of facility modifications to eliminate in-core vibration of instrument and source tubes.

Prior to issuance of the proposed license amendment, the Commission will have made the findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations.

By November 3, 1976, the licensee may file a request for a hearing and any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding may file a request for a hearing in the form of a petition for leave to intervene with respect to the issuance of the amendment to the subject facility operating license. Petitions for leave to intervene

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must be filed under oath or affirmation in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.714 of 10 CFR Part 2 of the Commission's regulations. A petition for leave to intervene must set forth the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding, and the petitioner's contentions with respect to the proposed licensing action. Such petitions must be filed in accordance with the provisions of this FEDERAL REGISTER notice and Section 2.714, and must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. 20555, Attention: Docketing and Service Section, by the above date. A copy of the petition and/or request for a hearing should be sent to the Executive Legal Director, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. 20555, and to Gene Watson, Attorney, Barlow, Watson & Johnson, P. O. Box 81686, Lincoln, Nebraska 68501, the attorney for the licensee.

A petition for leave to intervene must be accompanied by a supporting affidavit which identifies the specific aspect or aspects of the proceeding as to which intervention is desired and specifies with particularity the facts on which the petitioner relies as to both his interest and his contentions with regard to each aspect on which intervention is requested. Petitions stating contentions relating only to matters outside the Commission's jurisdiction will be denied.

All petitions will be acted upon by the Commission or licensing board, designated by the Commission or by the Chairman of the Atomic

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Safety and Licensing Board Panel. Timely petitions will be considered to determine whether a hearing should be noticed or another appropriate order issued regarding the disposition of the petitions.

In the event that a hearing is held and a person is permitted to intervene, he becomes a party to the proceeding and has a right to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing. For example, he may present evidence and examine and cross-examine witnesses.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated August 9, 1976, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. and at the Auburn Public Library, 118 - 15th Street, Auburn, Nebraska 68306. The license amendment and the Safety Evaluation, when issued, may be inspected at the above locations and a copy may be obtained upon request addressed to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. 20555, Attention: Director, Division of Operating Reactors.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this SEP 27 1976

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Original Signed by:  
Dennis L. Ziemann

Dennis L. Ziemann, Chief  
Operating Reactors Branch #2  
Division of Operating Reactors

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