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Docket No. 50-298

SEP 15 1982

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

Dear Mr. Pilant:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Order modifying the Order dated January 13, 1981 for the Cooper Nuclear Station. This Order continues in effect the exemption and extends the completion date for installation of plant modifications needed to comply with the staff's Acceptance Criteria contained in Appendix A to NUREG-0661 to no later than the start of Fuel Cycle 9 at the completion of your 1983 refueling outage.

The granting of this extension is based on information provided to the staff by you in your August 23, 1982 letter, which primarily cited unforeseen difficulties and delays in the installation and delivery of components and the fact that over 95% of the total program effort is complete which restores most of the originally intended safety margin.

The issuance of this modifying Order provides an extension of the exemption from General Design Criterion 50 of Appendix A to 10 CFR Part 50 previously granted to the affected licensee on January 13, 1981. This exemption concerns the minimum margins of safety in the containment design. As part of the Mark I Containment Short-Term Program (STP), the staff determined that a margin of safety of at least two in the containment design was sufficient to assure the containment function in the event of a design basis loss-of-coolant accident (LOCA) and, therefore, provided an adequate basis for continued plant operation until the completion of the Long-Term Program (LTP). The objective of the LTP, which will be completed when the provisions of the enclosed Order are satisfied, is to restore the originally intended margins of safety in the containment design.

A copy of the enclosed Order is being filed with the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

*Original signed by  
 D. B. Vassallo*

Domenic B. Vassallo, Chief  
 Operating Reactors Branch #2  
 Division of Licensing

*OELD claims suspended*  
*subject to program*  
 NRR  
 E. Case  
 9/1/82

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Enclosure: Order  
 cc: w/enclosure

OFFICE	See next page	DL:ORB#2	DL:ORB#2	DL:ORB#2	DL:ORB#2	DL:ORB#2	OELD
SURNAME		S. Norris	B. Siegel	D. B. Vassallo	G. Lamas	D. Eisenhut	
DATE		9/3/82	9/3/82	9/3/82	9/9/82	9/15/82	9/17/82

Mr. J. M. Pilant  
Nebraska Public Power District

cc:

Mr. G. D. Watson, General Counsel  
Nebraska Public Power District  
P. O. Box 499  
Columbus, Nebraska 68601

John T. Collins  
Regional Administrator, Region IV  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000  
Arlington, Texas 76011

Mr. Arthur C. Gehr, Attorney  
Snell & Wilmer  
3100 Valley Center  
Phoenix, Arizona 85073

Cooper Nuclear Station  
ATTN: Mr. L. Lessor  
Station Superintendent  
P. O. Box 98  
Brownville, Nebraska 68321

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

Director  
Nebraska Dept. of Environmental Control  
P. O. Box 94877, State House Station  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509

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

Mr. Dennis Dubois  
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Resident Inspector  
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U. S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region VII Office  
Regional Radiation Representative  
324 East 11th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64106

UNITED STATES OF AMERICANUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of )  
 Nebraska Public Power District )  
 (Cooper Nuclear Station) )      Docket No. 50-298

Modification of  
 January 13, 1981 Order

## I.

The Nebraska Public Power District (the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License No. DPR-46 which authorizes the licensee to operate the Cooper Nuclear Station at power levels not in excess of 2381 megawatts thermal (rated power). The facility is a boiling water reactor located at the licensee's site in Nemaha County, Nebraska.

## II.

On January 13, 1981 the Commission issued an Order modifying the license requiring: 1) the licensee to promptly assess the suppression pool hydrodynamic loads in accordance with NEDO-24583-1 and the Acceptance Criteria contained in Appendix A to NUREG-0661; and 2) design and install any plant modifications needed to assure that the facility conforms to the Acceptance Criteria contained in Appendix A to NUREG-0661. The Order, published in the Federal Register on January 28, 1981 (46 FR 9286) required installation of any plant modifications needed to provide compliance with the Acceptance Criteria in Appendix A to NUREG-0661 be completed not later than September 30, 1982, or, if the plant is shutdown on that date, before the resumption of power thereafter.

III.

On October 31, 1979, the staff issued an initial version of its acceptance criteria to the affected licensees. These criteria were subsequently revised in February 1980 to reflect acceptable alternative assessment techniques which would enhance the implementation of this program. Throughout the development of these acceptance criteria, the staff has worked closely with the Mark I Owners Group in order to encourage plant-unique assessments and modifications to be undertaken.

Since the development of these acceptance criteria significant progress has been made and it was the intent of the licensee to meet the date specified in the January 13, 1981 Order. However, as identified in an August 23, 1982 letter, unforeseen difficulties and delays have been encountered related to the following: 1) installation of piping hangers for the torus attached piping; 2) delivery of specialized cabling for the torus temperature monitoring system; and 3) installation of relief valve logic system changes (Low-Low Setpoint Logic) that have necessitated revision of the Order date.

All of the major modifications, which are those associated with the torus, vent system, internal structures and safety relief valve piping have been completed except for the installation of the relief valve logic system changes. All of the torus attached piping modifications have also been completed, except for completion of the installation of the remaining 40% of the external pipe hangers. It is estimated that over 95% of the total

program effort has already been completed.

The Commission believes that with the modifications already completed most of the intended margins of safety of the containment systems have been achieved. In consideration of the range of modification completion dates presented in SECY-81-678 that was approved by the Commission, the Commission has concluded that the licensee's proposed completion schedule is both responsive and practicable.

The Commission has therefore determined to extend the previously imposed completion dates for needed plant modifications. This extension continues in effect the exemption to General Design Criteria 50 of Appendix A to 10 CFR Part 50 granted on January 13, 1981.

The Commission has determined that good cause exists for the extension of that exemption, that such extension is authorized by law, will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security, and is in the public interest. The Commission has determined that the granting of this extension will not result in any significant environmental impact and that, pursuant to 10 CFR 51.5(d)(4), an environmental impact statement or negative declaration and environment impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with this action.

IV.

Accordingly, pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, including Sections 103 and 161i, and the Commission's rules and regulations in 10 CFR Parts 2 and 50, IT IS ORDERED that the completion date specified in Section V of the January 13, 1981, "Order for Modification of License and Grant of Extension of Exemption," is hereby changed to read as follows: "Prior to the start of Cycle 9 at the completion of your 1983 refueling outage." The Order of January 13, 1981, except as modified herein, remains in effect in accordance with its terms.

V.

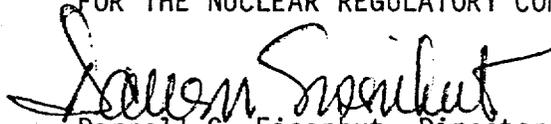
The licensee may request a hearing on this Order within 30 days of the date of publication of this Order in the Federal Register. A request for hearing shall be submitted to the Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555. Copies of the request shall also be sent to the Secretary of the Commission and the Executive Legal Director at the same address.

If a hearing is requested by the licensee, the Commission will issue an order designating the time and place of any such hearing. If a hearing is held, the issue to be considered at such a hearing shall be

whether the completion date specified in Section V of the January 13, 1981, "Order for Modification of License and Grant Extension of Exemption," should be changed to "Prior to the Start of Cycle 9 at the completion of your 1983 refueling outage."

This Order shall become effective upon expiration of the period within which a hearing may be requested or, if a hearing is requested, on the date specified in an order issued following further proceedings on this Order.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Darrell G. Eisenhut".

Darrell G. Eisenhut, Director  
Division of Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Date at Bethesda, Maryland  
This 15th day of September 1982.