

February 27, 1990

Docket No. 50-298

Mr. George A. Trevors, Division  
Manager - Nuclear Support  
Nebraska Public Power District  
Post Office Box 499  
Columbus, Nebraska 68601-0499

Dear Mr. Trevors:

SUBJECT: COOPER NUCLEAR STATION - AMENDMENT NO. 131 TO FACILITY  
OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-46 (TAC NO. 72870)

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 131 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-46 for the Cooper Nuclear Station. The amendment consists of changes to the Technical Specifications in response to your application dated March 20, 1989 as supplemented June 6, 1989.

The amendment changes the Technical Specifications to remove Figures 6.1.1 and 6.1.2 entitled "NPPD Nuclear Power Group Organization Chart" and "NPPD Cooper Nuclear Station Organization Chart" and all references thereto. The amendment also adds Specifications 6.1.2.A, 6.1.2.B, 6.1.2.C, and 6.1.3.H, that 1) establish lines of authority responsibility, and communication within the operating organization at Cooper Station; 2) designates an onsite management position responsible for overall unit operation; 3) designates an executive level position that has corporate responsibility for overall plant nuclear safety; and 4) designates those positions in the onsite organization that requires a Senior Reactor Operator or Reactor Operator license.

A copy of our related Safety Evaluation is enclosed. Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's next biweekly Federal Register notice.

Sincerely,

/s/

Paul W. O'Connor, Project Manager  
Project Directorate IV  
Division of Reactor Projects - III,  
IV, V and Special Projects  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:

- Amendment No. 131 to License No. DPR-46
- Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosures:

See next page

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

February 27, 1990

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul W. O'Connor".

Paul W. O'Connor, Project Manager  
Project Directorate IV  
Division of Reactor Projects - III,  
IV, V and Special Projects  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 131 to  
License No. DPR-46
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosures:  
See next page

Mr. George A. Trevors  
Nebraska Public Power District

Cooper Nuclear Station

cc:

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Cooper Nuclear Station  
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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

DOCKET NO. 50-298

COOPER NUCLEAR STATION

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 131  
License No. DPR-46

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
  - A. The application for amendment by Nebraska Public Power District (the licensee) dated March 20, 1989 as supplemented June 6, 1989, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, as amended, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
  - C. There is reasonable assurance: (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
  - D. The issuance of this license amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
  - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment and Paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. DPR-46 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2. Technical Specifications

- The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No.131, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

3. The license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

*Walter A. Paulson*

*for* Frederick J. Hebdon, Director  
Project Directorate IV  
Division of Reactor Projects - III,  
IV, V and Special Projects  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment:  
Changes to the Technical  
Specifications

Date of Issuance: February 27, 1990

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 131

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-46

DOCKET NO. 50-298

Replace the following pages of the Appendix A Technical Specifications with the enclosed pages. The revised pages are identified by Amendment number and contain vertical lines indicating the area of change.

Pages

219

219a

236 (deleted)

237 (deleted)

6.0 ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS

6.1 ORGANIZATION

6.1.1 Responsibility

The Division Manager of Nuclear Operations shall have the over-all fulltime onsite responsibility for the safe operation of the Cooper Nuclear Station. During periods when the Division Manager of Nuclear Operations is unavailable, he may delegate his responsibility to one of the managers in the Nuclear Operations Division.

6.1.2 Offsite and Onsite Organizations

Onsite and offsite organizations shall be established for unit operation and corporate management, respectively. The onsite and offsite organizations shall include the positions for activities affecting the safety of the nuclear power plant.

- A. Lines of authority, responsibility, and communication shall be established and defined from the highest management levels through intermediate levels to and including all operating organization positions. These relationships shall be documented and updated, as appropriate, in the form of organization charts, functional descriptions of departmental responsibilities and relationships, and job descriptions for key personnel positions, or in equivalent forms of documentation. These requirements shall be documented in the USAR.
- B. The Division Manager of Nuclear Operations shall be responsible for overall unit safe operation and shall have control over those onsite activities necessary for safe operation and maintenance of the plant.
- C. The Nuclear Power Group Manager shall have corporate responsibility for overall plant nuclear safety and shall take any measures needed to ensure acceptable performance of the staff in operating, maintaining, and providing technical support to the plant to ensure nuclear safety.
- D. The individuals who train the operating staff and those who carry out health physics and quality assurance functions may report to the appropriate onsite manager; however, they shall have sufficient organizational freedom to ensure their independence from operating pressures.

6.1.3 Plant Staff - Shift Complement

The shift complement at the station shall at all times meet the following requirements. Note: Higher grade licensed operators may take the place of lower grade licensed or unlicensed operators.

- A. A licensed senior reactor operator (SRO) shall be present at the station at all times when there is any fuel in the reactor.
- B. A licensed reactor operator shall be in the control room at all times when there is any fuel in the reactor.
- C. Two licensed reactor operators shall be in the control room during all startup, shutdown and other periods involving significant planned control rod manipulations. A licensed SRO shall either be in the Control Room or immediately available to the Control Room during such periods.

- D. A licensed senior reactor operator (SRO) with no other concurrent duties shall be directly in charge of any refueling operation, or alteration of the reactor core.

A licensed reactor operator (RO) with no other concurrent duties shall be directly in charge of operations involving the handling of irradiated fuel other than refueling or reactor core alteration operations.

- E. An individual who has been trained and qualified in health physics techniques shall be on site at all times that fuel is on site.
- F. Minimum crew size during reactor operation shall consist of four licensed reactor operators (two of whom shall be licensed SRO) and three unlicensed operators. Minimum crew size during reactor cold shutdown conditions shall consist of two licensed reactor operators (one of whom shall be licensed SRO) and one unlicensed operator.

In the event that any member of a minimum shift crew is absent or incapacitated due to illness or injury a qualified replacement shall be designated to report onsite within two hours.

- G. A Fire Brigade of at least 5 members shall be maintained at all times. This excludes the 3 members of the minimum shift crew necessary for safe shutdowns, and other personnel required for other essential functions during a fire emergency. Three fire Brigade members shall be from the Operations Department and 2 support members may be from other departments inclusive of Security personnel.

Fire Brigade composition may be less than the minimum requirements for a period of time not to exceed 2 hours in order to accommodate unexpected absence of Fire Brigade members provided immediate action is taken to restore the Fire Brigade to within the minimum requirements.

- H. The Operations Supervisor, Shift Supervisor and Control Room Supervisor shall hold a senior reactor operator license. The Unit Operators shall hold, at a minimum, a reactor operator license.

#### 6.1.4 Plant Staff - Qualifications

The minimum qualifications, training, replacement training, and retraining of plant personnel at the time of fuel loading or appointment to the active position shall meet the requirements as described in the American National Standards Institute N-18.1- 1971, "Selection and Training of Personnel for Nuclear Power Plants". The Chemistry and Health Physics Supervisor shall meet or exceed the qualifications of Regulatory Guide 1.8, Sept. 1975; personnel qualification equivalency as stated in the Regulatory Guide may be proposed in selected cases. The minimum frequency of the retraining program shall be every two years. The training program shall be under the direction of the Training Manager.

- A. A training program for the fire brigade will be maintained under the direction of the Training Manager and shall meet or exceed the requirements of Section 27 of the NFPA Code 1976, except for Fire Brigade training sessions which shall be held at least quarterly.

The training program requirements will be provided by a qualified fire protection engineer.



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 131 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-46  
NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT  
COOPER NUCLEAR STATION  
DOCKET NO. 50-298

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated March 20, 1989 as supplemented June 6, 1989, Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) (the licensee) proposed changes to Technical Specifications (TS) 6.1.2, Offsite, and 6.1.3, Plant Staff - Shift Completion. The proposed changes would remove Figure 6.1-1, NPPD Nuclear Power Group Organization Chart and Figure 6.1-2, NPPD Cooper Nuclear Station Organization Chart, and replace them with a narrative description of the offsite and onsite organizations functional requirements in TS 6.1.2 and unit staff qualifications in 6.1.4. Guidance for these proposed changes to the TS was provided to licensees and applicants by Generic Letter 88-06, dated March 22, 1988. The June 6, 1989 submittal added a TS provision (6.1.2.D) which describes the reporting requirements for individuals who train the operating staff and those who carry out health physics and quality assurance functions.

2.0 BACKGROUND

Consistent with the guidance provided in the Standard Technical Specifications, Specifications 6.2.1 and 6.2.2 of the administrative control requirements have referenced offsite and unit (onsite) organization charts that are provided as figures to these sections. On a plant specific basis, these organization charts have been provided by applicants and included in the TS issued with the operating license. Subsequent restructuring of either the offsite or unit organizations, following the issuance of an operating license, has required licensees to submit a license amendment for NRC approval to reflect the desired changes in these organizations. As a consequence, organizational changes have necessitated the need to request an amendment of the operating license.

Because of these limitations on organizational structure, the nuclear industry has highlighted this as an area for improvement in the TS. The Shearon Harris licensee proposed changes to remove organization charts from its TS under the lead-plant concept that included the endorsement of the proposed changes by the Westinghouse Owners Group. In its review of the Shearon Harris proposal, the staff concluded that most of the essential elements of offsite and onsite organization charts are captured by other regulatory requirements, notably, Appendix B to 10 CFR Part 50. However, there were aspects of the organizational

structure that are important to ensure that the administrative control requirements of 10 CFR 50.36 would be met and that would not be retained with the removal of the organization charts. The applicable regulatory requirements are those administrative controls that are necessary to ensure safe operation of the facility. Therefore, those aspects of organization charts for Shearon Harris that were essential for conformance with regulatory requirements were added (1) to Specification 6.2.1 to define functional requirements for the offsite and onsite organizations and (2) to Specification 6.2.2 to define qualification requirements of the unit staff.

By letter dated January 27, 1988, the staff issued Amendment No. 3 to Facility Operating License NFP-63 for the Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant that incorporated these changes to their TS. Subsequently the staff developed guidance on an acceptable format for license amendment requests to remove the organization charts from TS. Generic Letter 88-06 provided this guidance to all power reactors.

### 3.0 EVALUATION

The licensee's proposed changes to its TS are in accordance with the guidance provided by Generic Letter 88-06 and addressed the items listed below.

- (1) Specifications 6.1.2 and 6.1.3 were revised to delete the references to Figures 6.1-1 and 6.1-2 that were removed from the TS.
- (2) Functional requirements of the offsite and onsite organizations were defined and added to Specification 6.1.2 and they are consistent with the guidance provided in Generic Letter 88-06. The specification notes that implementation of these requirements is documented in the Updated Safety Analysis Report (USAR).
- (3) The senior reactor operator and reactor operator license qualified position(s) of the unit staff was (were) added to Specification 6.1.3.H. Therefore, this requirement that was identified on the organization chart for the unit staff will be retained.
- (4) Consistent with requirements to document the offsite and onsite organization relationships in the form of organization charts, the licensee has confirmed that this documentation has been included in the July 5, 1989, submission of the Cooper Nuclear Station Updated Safety Analysis Report.

- (5) The licensee has confirmed that no specifications, other than those noted in items (1) above, include references to the figures of the organization charts that are being removed from TS for their plant. Hence, there is not an applicable consideration with regard to the need to redefine referenced requirements as a result of the removal of these figures.

On the basis of its review of the above items, the staff concludes that the licensee has provided an acceptable response to these items as addressed in the NRC guidance on removing organization charts from the administrative control requirements of the TS. Furthermore, the staff finds that these changes are consistent with the staff's generic finding on the acceptability of such changes as noted in Generic Letter 88-06. Accordingly, the staff finds the proposed changes to be acceptable.

#### 4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

These amendments relate to changes in recordkeeping, or administrative procedures or requirements. Accordingly, the amendments meet the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(10). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of these amendments.

#### 5.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission made proposed determinations that the amendment involves no significant-hazards consideration, which were published in the Federal Register on May 17, 1989 (54 FR 21309) and on January 24, 1990 (55 FR 2436). The Commission consulted with the State of Nebraska. No public comments were received, and the State of Nebraska did not have any comments.

On the basis of the consideration discussed above, the staff concludes that (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of these amendments will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributors: Paul W. O'Connor, PD4/DRSP  
Thomas G. Dunning, OTSB/DOEA

Dated: February 27, 1990