



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

July 31, 1998

Mr. G. R. Horn  
Sr. Vice President of Energy Supply  
Nebraska Public Power District  
1414 15th Street  
Columbus, NE 68601

*See Amdt's To  
PL. 2 Vols*

**SUBJECT: CONVERSION TO IMPROVED TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE  
COOPER NUCLEAR STATION - AMENDMENT NO. 178 TO FACILITY  
OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-46 (TAC NO. M98317)**

Dear Mr. Horn:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 178 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-46 for the Cooper Nuclear Station (CNS). This amendment converts the current Technical Specifications (CTs) for the CNS to the Improved Technical Specifications (ITs). The ITs are based on NUREG-1433, "Standard Technical Specifications, General Electric Plants, BWR/4," Revision 1, dated April 1995, and on guidance provided in the Commission's "Final Policy Statement on Technical Specifications Improvements for Nuclear Power Reactors," published on July 22, 1993 (58 FR 39132), and 10 CFR 50.36, as amended July 19, 1995 (60 FR 36953). The overall objective of the proposed amendment was to rewrite, reformat, and streamline the CTs for the CNS to improve safety and the understanding of the Bases underlying the Technical Specifications.

The enclosed amendment is based on the staff's review of your application dated March 27, 1997 (NLS970002), as supplemented by (1) two letters in 1997 dated September 29 (NLS970124) and December 22 (NLS970225), and (2) 9 letters in 1998 dated February 9 (NLS980029), March 13 (NLS980046), March 26 (NLS980057), April 16 (NLS980069), May 6 (NLS980065), June 23 (NLS980102), July 13 (NLS980104), July 14 (NLS980117) and July 28, (NLS980119). The two letters dated September 29, 1997, and April 16, 1998, were concerned with the use of the General Electric (GE) setpoint methodology for the ITS and are addressed in Section III.G.2 of the enclosed Safety Evaluation on ITS Section 3.3. The staff issued requests for additional information dated November 6 and December 22, 1997, and March 19, 1998.

A portion of your request was treated as an exigent amendment in accordance with 10 CFR 50.91(a)(6)(i)(A).

The draft Safety Evaluation (SE) for the ITS conversion was sent to you by our letter dated June 24, 1998, for your review to verify the accuracy of the draft SE, and you responded with your comments on the draft SE on July 14, 1998. You submitted the ITs for the CNS and certified to their correctness for the CNS in that you provided the affirmation in your letter of July 28, 1998, that the statements made in the letter, and its attachments including the ITs, are true. Your comments were reviewed and incorporated in the enclosed final SE for the amendment as appropriate. The draft SE and tables were also revised based on the staff's review of the tables after the draft SE was issued.

Included with the amendment are two license conditions for the new Appendix C, "Additional Conditions," to the license for the CNS. The addition of Appendix C to the license is an administrative action by the NRC that only involved the format of the license and does not

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authorize any activities outside the scope of your application for the ITS conversion. You submitted the following license conditions with the ITSs in your letter of July 13, 1998: (1) the relocation of CTS requirements into licensee-controlled documents during the implementation of the ITSs, and (2) the first performance of new and revised surveillance requirements (SRs) for the ITSs to be related to the implementation of the ITSs. These license conditions are part of the implementation of the ITSs and constitute enforceable commitments that the staff is relying upon in approving the amendment. The second license condition defines a schedule, acceptable to the staff, to begin performing the new and revised SRs during or after the implementation of the ITSs. As you have proposed, the implementation of the ITSs is to be completed within 90 days of the date of this letter. Any changes to these license conditions, including the implementation date for the ITS conversion, must be submitted as a 10 CFR 50.90 amendment to the license and approved by the staff.

The ITSs will become effective upon the date of its implementation, but no later than 90 days from the date of this letter. Until the implementation of the ITSs, the CTSs shall remain in effect and the plant will be operated in accordance with the requirements in the CTSs. If there is an amendment to the Technical Specifications before the implementation of the ITSs is completed, the amendment will be to both the CTSs and the ITSs. You are requested to submit a letter stating when the ITSs are implemented on the CNS within 14 days of the date of implementation.

You stated in your letter of July 28, 1998, that the safety-related calculations for ITS Section 3.3, based on the GE setpoint methodology that is discussed in Section III.G.2 of the enclosed SE, have been completed.

Concerning Section 5.3 of the ITSs, the requirements on plant staff qualifications in 10 CFR Part 55 was the subject of our letter of July 10, 1998. In that letter, you were requested to provide a response, including your plans and schedules for revising the Technical Specifications, if needed, within 45 days of receipt of that letter.

A copy of our related Safety Evaluation and Notice of Issuance are also enclosed. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 301-415-1307 (or jnd@nrc.gov on the Internet) if you have any questions about the amendment.

Sincerely,  
**ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:**  
 Jack N. Donohew, Senior Project Manager  
 Project Directorate IV-1  
 Division of Reactor Projects III/IV  
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-298

- Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 178 to License No. DPR-46
- 2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

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 Document Name: COO98317.AMD \*See previous concurrence

OFC	PM/RDA-1	LA/PD4-1*	BC/SPLB*	OGC	PD/PDIV-1
NAME	JDonohew/vw	CHawes	LMarsh	JHall	JHannon
DATE	7/31/98	07/22/98	7/23/98	7/31/98	7/31/98
COPY	YES/NO	YES/NO	III.G.5 YES/NO	YES/NO	YES/NO

TSB BC  
 WBeckner  
 concurred  
 on Draft  
 SE issuance  
 6/23/98  
 JND

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with corrections as noted  
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authorize any activities outside the scope of your application for the ITS conversion. You submitted the following license conditions with the ITSs in your letter of July 13, 1998: (1) the relocation of CTS requirements into licensee-controlled documents during the implementation of the ITSs, and (2) the first performance of new and revised surveillance requirements (SRs) for the ITSs to be related to the implementation of the ITSs. These license conditions are part of the implementation of the ITSs and constitute enforceable commitments that the staff is relying upon in approving the amendment. The second license condition defines a schedule, acceptable to the staff, to begin performing the new and revised SRs during or after the implementation of the ITSs. As you have proposed, the implementation of the ITSs is to be completed within 90 days of the date of this letter. Any changes to these license conditions, including the implementation date for the ITS conversion, must be submitted as a 10 CFR 50.90 amendment to the license and approved by the staff.

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Sincerely,



Jack N. Donohew, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate IV-1  
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-298

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 178 to License No. DPR-46  
2. Safety Evaluation  
3. Notice of Issuance

cc w/encls: See next page



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT  
DOCKET NO. 50-298  
COOPER NUCLEAR STATION  
AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 178  
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 27, 1997, as supplemented by (1) two letters in 1997 dated September 29, and December 22, and (2) 9 letters in 1998 dated February 9, March 13, March 26, April 16, May 6, June 23, July 13, July 14 and July 28, comply 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, 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.

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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. 178, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

In addition, the license is amended to add Paragraph 2.C.(5) to Facility Operating License No. DPR-46 as follows:

(5) Additional Conditions

The Additional Conditions contained in Appendix C, as revised through Amendment No. 178, are hereby incorporated into this license. Nebraska Public Power District shall operate the facility in accordance with the Additional Conditions.

3. The license amendment is effective immediately and shall be implemented within 90 days of the issuance of this amendment. The implementation of this amendment includes the two additional license conditions which are being added to Appendix C as part of this amendment.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Jack N. Donohew, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate IV-1  
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

- Attachments: 1. Page 4 of the license\*  
2. Changes to Appendices A and C  
of the License

Date of Issuance: July 31, 1998

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\*Page 4 and Appendix C of the license are attached, for convenience, for the composite license to reflect this change. Page 4a of the license is removed.

Mr. G. R. Horn  
Nebraska Public Power District

Cooper Nuclear Station

cc:

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Vice President of Nuclear Energy  
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MidAmerican Energy  
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Nebraska Department of Environmental  
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Nebraska Public Power District  
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Nemaha County Board of Commissioners  
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Mr. Ronald A. Kucera, Department Director  
of Intergovernmental Cooperation  
Department of Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 176  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

APPENDIX C

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DRP-46

Nebraska Public Power District shall comply with the following conditions on the schedules noted below:

Amendment  
Implementation

<u>Number</u>	<u>Additional Conditions</u>	<u>Date</u>
178	This amendment authorizes the relocation of certain Technical Specification requirements to licensee-controlled documents. Implementation of this amendment shall include the initial relocation of these Technical Specification requirements to the appropriate documents, as described in Table RL of Details Relocated from Current Technical Specifications and Table R of Relocated Current Technical Specifications that are attached to the NRC staff's Safety Evaluation enclosed with this amendment.	Within 90 days of the date of this amendment.
178	The schedule for the performance of new and revised Surveillance Requirements (SRs) shall be as follows: For SRs that are new in this amendment, the first performance is due at the end of the first surveillance interval that begins on the date of implementation of this amendment. For SRs that existed prior to this amendment whose intervals of performance are being reduced, the first reduced surveillance interval begins upon completion of the first surveillance performed after implementation of this amendment. For SRs that existed prior to this amendment that have modified acceptance criteria, the first performance is due at the end of the first surveillance interval that began on the date the surveillance was last performed prior to the implementation of this amendment. For SRs that existed prior to this amendment whose intervals of performance are being extended, the first extended surveillance interval begins upon completion of the last surveillance performed prior to implementation of this amendment.	Within 90 days of the date of this amendment.

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 178

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-46

DOCKET NO. 50-298

Replace the entirety of the Appendix A, "Technical Specifications," and the Bases to the Technical Specifications. The pages are identified by Amendment No. 178

REMOVE PAGES

INSERT PAGES

All pages

All pages



2.C.(4) Fire Protection

The licensee may proceed with and is required to complete the modifications identified in Paragraphs 3.1 through 3.37 of the NRC's Fire Protection Safety Evaluation (SE), dated May 23, 1979, for the facility. These modifications will be completed prior to July 1, 1980.

In addition, the licensee shall submit the additional information in Table 3.1 of this SE in accordance with the schedule contained therein. In the event these dates for submittal cannot be met, the licensee shall submit a report, explaining the circumstances, together with a revised schedule.

The licensee is required to implement the administrative controls identified in Section 6 of the SE. The administrative controls shall be in effect by November 1, 1979.

C.(5) Additional Conditions

The Additional Conditions contained in Appendix C, as revised through Amendment No. 178, are hereby incorporated into this license. Nebraska Public Power District shall operate the facility in accordance with the Additional Conditions.

D. This license is subject to the additional following condition for the protection of the environment:

The licensee shall, for operation not later than April 30, 1975, modify the liquid and gaseous radiological effluent handling systems in accordance with the systems described in Amendment 18 to the Final Safety Analysis Report. If such systems are not installed by such date, the licensee shall, nonetheless, observe the gaseous activity release limits set forth in paragraph a.4 of Section 2.4.3 of Appendix B attached hereto and facility operation shall be restricted accordingly, if necessary.

E. This license is effective as of the date of issuance and shall expire at midnight, January 18, 2014.

FOR THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

A. Giambusso, Deputy Director  
for Reactor Projects  
Directorate of Licensing

Attachments:

Appendices A & B - Technical Specifications  
Appendix C - Additional Conditions

Date of Issuance: January 18, 1974

Amendment No. 178