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Omaha NE 68102-2247

May 9, 2002
LIC-02-0060

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN.: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

- Reference: 1) Docket No. 50-285
2) Letter from OPPD (R. T. Ridenoure) to NRC (Document Control Desk) dated March 27, 2002, Fort Calhoun Station Unit No. 1 License Amendment Request, "Revision of the High Power Trip Setpoint" (LIC-02-0031)

SUBJECT: Fort Calhoun Station Unit No. 1 License Amendment Request, "Revision of the High Power Trip Setpoint"

On March 27, 2002, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.90, Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) submitted a License Amendment Request for Fort Calhoun Station Unit 1 (FCS) (Reference 2). This proposed amendment changes the Reactor Protective System High Power Level trip to 109.0% from the current 107.0% value in Technical Specification (TS) 1.3.1. OPPD now requests that this License Amendment Request be approved on an exigent basis.

Attachment 1 of Reference 2 provides the No Significant Hazards Evaluation and the technical bases for this requested change to the TS. Attachments 2 and 3 of Reference 2 contain a marked-up and clean version reflecting the requested TS and Basis changes. Attachment 1 of this submittal contains an explanation of the exigency and why OPPD could not have avoided the present condition, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.91(a)(6)(vi).

In order to help alleviate difficulties experienced with hot leg flow streaming anomalies, OPPD requests approval of the proposed amendment on an exigent basis by May 31, 2002, to be available for >95% power operation following the Spring 2002 Refueling Outage. The Spring 2002 Refueling Outage is planned to end and power operation begin on May 31, 2002. Once approved, the amendment shall be implemented by June 5, 2002.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. (Executed on May 9, 2002)

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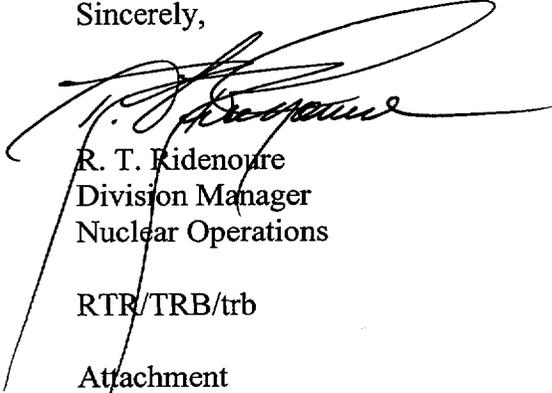
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If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Dr. R. L. Jaworski of my staff at 402-533-6833.

Sincerely,



R. T. Kidenoure
Division Manager
Nuclear Operations

RTR/TRB/trb

Attachment

1. Explanation of the Exigency and Why the Situation Could Not Have Been Avoided

c: E. W. Merschoff, NRC Regional Administrator, Region IV
A. B. Wang, NRC Project Manager
W. C. Walker, NRC Senior Resident Inspector
Division Administrator, Public Health Assurance, State of Nebraska
Winston & Strawn

Attachment 1

Explanation of the Exigency and Why the Situation Could Not Have Been Avoided

On March 27, 2002, Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) requested an amendment to change the high power trip setpoint (Reference 2). OPPD informed the NRC that the revised setpoint for the high power trip needed to be approved prior to exceeding 95% rated power to avoid a potential plant trip due to a hot leg flow streaming event. OPPD asked the NRC that the amendment be approved by May 31, 2002 to provide OPPD sufficient time to implement the change. Fort Calhoun Station Unit 1 (FCS) began its Spring Refueling Outage on May 3, 2002. The Spring Refueling Outage is scheduled to be completed and power operation scheduled to resume on May 31, 2002. FCS is currently scheduled to exceed 95% power on June 5, 2002. On May 2, 2002, the NRC notified OPPD that the NRC had missed the April 16, 2002 deadline for publication of the no significant hazards consideration notice in the April 30, 2002 Federal Register. Publication in the Federal Register was needed by April 30, 2002 to allow the NRC to issue the amendment by May 31, 2002. The NRC informed OPPD that the Federal Register Notice went for publication on April 25, 2002 and would be issued on May 14, 2002. Therefore, the comment period would not end until June 13, 2002 and the amendment could not be issued until June 14, 2002. After reviewing the options available for issuing the amendment by May 31, 2002, OPPD has concluded that the amendment should be processed on an exigent basis.

The exigency is needed to enable the plant to achieve 100% power because the amendment cannot be issued by June 5, 2002 as a result of the public comment period. Therefore, OPPD requests approval of this License Amendment Request on an exigent basis.