



**Nebraska Public Power District**  
*Nebraska's Energy Leader*

NLS2002082  
June 19, 2002

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attention: Document Control Desk  
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Subject: Request for Exigent Review of Proposed License Amendment  
Cooper Nuclear Station, NRC Docket 50-298, DPR-46

Reference: Nebraska Public Power District letter NLS2002008, to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, dated May 20, 2002, "License Amendment Request to Revise the Ultimate Heat Sink and Reactor Equipment Cooling Water Temperature Requirements."

The purpose of this letter is to request the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to exigently process the license amendment request (LAR) submitted by the referenced letter pursuant to 10 CFR 50.91(a)(6). The main focus of the subject LAR is to increase the Ultimate Heat Sink (UHS) temperature limit defined in the Cooper Nuclear Station (CNS) Technical Specifications from the current value of 90° to 95°. The Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) requested review and approval of the subject LAR by July 10, 2002. To facilitate an expedient review, members of the CNS staff are scheduled to meet with members of the NRC staff the week of June 24, 2002.

The bases for this request is two-fold: 1) NPPD determined that an exigent review is warranted due to lower than expected river flows resulting from continuing drought conditions and low upstream reservoir levels. (The Missouri River is the UHS for CNS.) 2) Based on a recent communication between the CNS Licensing Manager and NRC Project Manager, standard noticing in the Federal Register would push the earliest date for LAR approval to July 25, 2002. The combination of natural phenomena and standard regulatory process could result in an unwarranted plant shutdown.

The subject LAR included the evaluation required by 10CFR50.91(a)(1), that determined whether the proposed changes to the CNS operating license involved any significant hazards consideration using the standards in 10CFR50.92(c). The results of that evaluation concluded that the requested changes to the license present no significant hazards considerations. This request, for an exigent processing of the subject LAR, does not affect the evaluation provided in the LAR. Therefore, no additional reviews by the onsite or offsite safety review committees were required for this request.

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In consideration of the above, NPPD believes it is in the best interest of the energy community to process the subject LAR exigently. Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. Paul V. Fleming at (402) 825-2774.

Sincerely,



Michael T. Coyle  
Site Vice President

/elm

cc: Regional Administrator  
USNRC - Region IV

Senior Project Manager  
USNRC - NRR Project Directorate IV-1

Senior Resident Inspector  
USNRC

NPG Distribution

Records

**Affidavit**

(STATE OF NEBRASKA )  
( )  
(NEMAHA COUNTY )

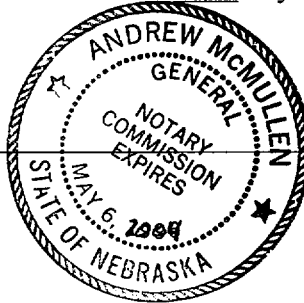
Michael T. Coyle, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he is an authorized representative of the Nebraska Public Power District, a public corporation and political subdivision of the State of Nebraska; that he is duly authorized to submit this correspondence on behalf of Nebraska Public Power District; and that the statements contained herein are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.



Michael T. Coyle

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 19 day of JUNE, 2002.

  
NOTARY PUBLIC



ATTACHMENT 3 LIST OF NRC COMMITMENTS
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Correspondence No: NLS2002082

The following table identifies those actions committed to by the District in this document. Any other actions discussed in the submittal represent intended or planned actions by the District. They are described to the NRC for the NRC's information and are not regulatory commitments. Please notify the NL&S Manager at Cooper Nuclear Station of any questions regarding this document or any associated regulatory commitments.

COMMITMENT	COMMITTED DATE OR OUTAGE
NONE	