

November 22, 1996

Mr. Neil S. Carns
President and Chief Executive Officer
Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation
Post Office Box 411
Burlington, Kansas 66839

SUBJECT: WOLF CREEK GENERATING STATION - AMENDMENT NO. 103 TO FACILITY
OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-42 (TAC NO. M91859)

Dear Mr. Carns:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 103 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-42 for the Wolf Creek Generating Station. The amendment consists of changes to the Technical Specifications (TS) in partial response to your application dated March 24, 1995, as supplemented by letter dated July 26, 1996.

The amendment revises TS Surveillance Requirement 4.5.1.1 to base accumulator operability on actual parameters (i.e., borated water volume and nitrogen cover-pressure in the tanks) vs. the absence of alarms. Portions of the March 24, 1995, application are still under staff review.

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

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

James C. Stone, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate IV-2
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-482

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 103 to NPF-42
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

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DOCUMENT NAME: WC91859.AMD

OFC	PDIV-2	PDIV-2	OTSB 96-114	OGC
NAME	JStone ^{KMF} :ye	EPeyton ^{EPD}	CGrimes ^{CG}	Cmarco
DATE	10/25/96	10/25/96	10/15/96	10/29/96

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

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James C. Stone".

James C. Stone, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate IV-2
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Mr. Neil S. Carns

- 2 -

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cc w/encs:

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Coffey County Courthouse
Burlington, Kansas 66839

Public Health Physicist
Bureau of Air & Radiation
Division of Environment
Kansas Department of Health
and Environment
Forbes Field Building 283
Topeka, Kansas 66620

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NAME	JStone:ye	EPeyton	CGrimes	C. Mar 20
DATE	10/25/96	10/25/96	10/15/96	10/29/96

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

WOLF CREEK NUCLEAR OPERATING CORPORATION

WOLF CREEK GENERATING STATION

DOCKET NO. 50-482

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 103
License No. NPF-42

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment to the Wolf Creek Generating Station (the facility) Facility Operating License No. NPF-42 filed by the Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation (the Corporation), dated March 24, 1995, as supplemented by letter dated July 26, 1996, 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.

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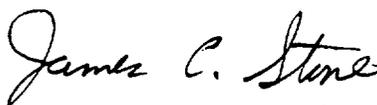
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment and Paragraph 2.C.(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-42 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2. Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 103, and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, both of which are attached hereto, are hereby incorporated in the license. The Corporation shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan.

3. The license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance to be implemented within 30 days of its date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



James C. Stone, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate IV-2
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: November 22, 1996

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 103

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-42

DOCKET NO. 50-482

Replace the following page of the Appendix A Technical Specifications with the attached page. The revised page is identified by Amendment number and contains a marginal line indicating the area of change. The corresponding overleaf page is also provided to maintain document completeness.

REMOVE

3/4 5-1

INSERT

3/4 5-1

3/4.5 EMERGENCY CORE COOLING SYSTEMS

3/4.5.1 ACCUMULATORS

LIMITING CONDITION FOR OPERATION

3.5.1 Each Reactor Coolant System accumulator shall be OPERABLE with:

- a. The isolation valve open and power removed,
- b. A contained borated water volume of between 6122 and 6594 gallons,
- c. A boron concentration of between 2300 and 2500 ppm, and
- d. A nitrogen cover-pressure of between 585 and 665 psig.

APPLICABILITY: MODES 1, 2, and 3*.

ACTION:

- a. With one accumulator inoperable, except as a result of a closed isolation valve, restore the inoperable accumulator to OPERABLE status within 1 hour or be in at least HOT STANDBY within the next 6 hours and reduce RCS pressure to less than 1000 psig within the following 6 hours.
- b. With one accumulator inoperable due to the isolation valve being closed, either immediately open the isolation valve or be in at least HOT STANDBY within 6 hours and reduce RCS pressure to less than 1000 psig within the following 6 hours.

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS

4.5.1.1 Each accumulator shall be demonstrated OPERABLE:

- a. At least once per 12 hours by:
 - 1) Verifying that the contained borated water volume and nitrogen cover-pressure in the tanks are within their limits, and
 - 2) Verifying that each accumulator isolation valve is open.

*Pressurizer pressure above 1000 psig.

EMERGENCY CORE COOLING SYSTEMS

SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS (Continued)

- b. At least once per 31 days and within 6 hours after each solution volume increase of greater than or equal to 70 gallons by verifying the boron concentration of the accumulator solution. This surveillance is not required when the volume increase makeup source is the RWST and the RWST has not been diluted since verifying that its boron concentration is within limits of Specification 3.5.5.
- c. At least once per 31 days when the RCS pressure is above 1000 psig by verifying that the circuit breaker supplying power to the isolation valve operator is open.

4.5.1.2 Each accumulator water level and pressure channel shall be demonstrated OPERABLE at least once per 18 months by the performance of a CHANNEL CALIBRATION.



UNITED STATES
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 103 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-42
WOLF CREEK NUCLEAR OPERATING CORPORATION
WOLF CREEK GENERATING STATION
DOCKET NO. 50-482

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By application dated March 24, 1995, as supplemented by a letter dated July 26, 1996, Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation (the licensee) requested changes to the Technical Specifications (TS) (Appendix A to Facility Operating License No. NPF-42) for the Wolf Creek Generating Station. One of the proposed changes would revise Surveillance Requirement 4.5.1.1.a.1 to base accumulator operability on actual parameters (i.e., borated water volume and nitrogen cover-pressure in the tanks) vs. absence of alarms. Other proposed changes are still under staff review.

The July 26, 1996, supplemental letter provided additional clarifying information and did not change the initial no significant hazards consideration determination published in the Federal Register on April 12, 1995 (60 FR 18632).

2.0 BACKGROUND

The NRC staff completed a comprehensive examination of surveillance requirements in the TS that require testing during power operation. This effort was part of the NRC Technical Specifications Improvement Plan (TSIP). The results are reported in NUREG-1366, "Improvements to Technical Specifications Surveillance Requirements," December 1992. In performing the study, the staff found that, while the majority of the testing at power is important, safety can be improved, equipment degradation decreased, and an unnecessary burden on personnel resources eliminated by reducing the amount of testing that the TS require during power operation. The staff issued Generic Letter (GL) 93-05, "Line-Item Technical Specifications Improvements To Reduce Surveillance Requirements For Testing During Power Operation" dated September 27, 1993, to assist licensees in preparing a license amendment request to implement the recommendations in NUREG-1366 as line-item TS improvements.

Surveillance Requirement 4.5.1.1.a.1 currently requires the accumulator to be demonstrated operable by verifying, by the absence of alarms, the contained borated water volume and nitrogen cover-pressure in the tanks. In Section 7.4 of GL 93-05, the staff provided guidance to licensees, which included removal of the reference to verifying operability of accumulators "by the absence of alarms" and replacing it with clarification to verify that the noted parameters are within their limits.

3.0 EVALUATION

The licensee has proposed to change Surveillance Requirement 4.5.1.1.a.1 by deleting the words "by the absence of alarms" and replacing it with clarification to verify that the noted parameters in the accumulators are within their limits. Since this meets the staff's position for the line-item TS improvement contained in GL 93-05, the staff finds this change acceptable.

4.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Kansas State Official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment changes a surveillance requirement. The NRC staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (60 FR 18632). Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

6.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, 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 the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: K. Thomas

Date: November 22, 1996