

April 21, 2003

Mr. Ross T. Ridenoure
Division Manager - Nuclear Operations
Omaha Public Power District
Fort Calhoun Station FC-2-4 Adm.
Post Office Box 550
Fort Calhoun, Nebraska 68023-0550

SUBJECT: LICENSE RENEWAL SAFETY EVALUATION REPORT FOR THE FORT
CALHOUN STATION, UNIT 1

Dear Mr. Ridenoure:

By letters dated January 9 and April 5, 2002, the Omaha Public Power District submitted an application to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for renewal of the Fort Calhoun Station, Unit 1 (FCS) operating license for an additional 20 years. The license renewal application (LRA) was submitted pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Part 54. The NRC determined that the LRA was complete and acceptable for docketing on April 16, 2002. The NRC staff has reviewed the FCS LRA and has developed the enclosed "Safety Evaluation Report With Open Items Related to the License Renewal of the Fort Calhoun Station, Unit 1," herein after referred to as the SER. This SER reflects the status of the staff's review of the applicant's LRA, requests for additional information and clarification, the applicant's responses to the NRC staff's requests through December 19, 2002, the staff's potential open items, and the applicant's responses to the potential open items through April 4, 2003, unless otherwise noted. Issuance of the enclosed SER is an important milestone for both the applicant and the staff.

The NRC staff has identified open and confirmatory items in its review that must be resolved before it can make a final determination on the application. These open items and confirmatory items, the majority of which were previously discussed with your staff, are summarized in Sections 1.5 and 1.6, respectively, of this SER.

In accordance with the schedule for completing the review of the FCS LRA, the applicant is requested to review the enclosed SER, verify its accuracy, and provide comments and responses to the open and confirmatory items by July 7, 2003. The NRC staff plans to review the current content and format of the SER to further improve the SER while incorporating the applicant's responses. A complete, revised SER will then be issued by September 19, 2003.

R. T. Ridenoure

-2-

The staff is committed to completing the review of the FCS SER in a timely manner, and will continue to look for opportunities to improve the schedule. If you have any questions regarding this matter, you can contact the project manager, William Burton, at 301-415-2853.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Pao-Tsin Kuo, Program Director
License Renewal and Environmental Impacts
Division of Regulatory Improvement Programs
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-285

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/enclosure: See next page

R. T. Ridenoure

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*See previous concurrence

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