

October 26, 1998

EA 98-392

S. K. Gambhir, Division Manager
Engineering & Operations Support
Omaha Public Power District
Fort Calhoun Station FC-2-4 Adm.
P.O. Box 399
Hwy. 75 - North of Fort Calhoun
Fort Calhoun, Nebraska 68023-0399

SUBJECT:

NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-285/98-08 AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Gambhir:

An NRC inspection was conducted June 8 to 12, 1998, at your Fort Calhoun Station reactor facility. Following the inspection, an exit meeting was held to provide the inspection findings to you and other members of your staff. Subsequently, an in-office inspection was performed until July 28, 1998, when a supplemental telephonic exit was held. Following the telephonic exit, your staff provided supplemental information to the team on July 31, 1998. In-office inspection of this supplemental information was performed through September 11, 1998. A second telephonic exit was then held on October 1, 1998.

During the inspection, the team evaluated your program developed to comply with 10 CFR 50.65, "Requirements for Monitoring the Effectiveness of Maintenance at Nuclear Power Plants" [the Maintenance Rule]. The enclosed report presents the scope and results of that inspection. The inspection results revealed that you had developed and implemented a program that generally met the requirements of 10 CFR 50.65. However, the team identified two violations of the Maintenance Rule.

Violation A involves the failure to satisfy the requirements of 10 CFR 50.65(a)(3). As a result of not establishing appropriate performance measures for high risk-significant structures, systems, and components, the periodic evaluation performed in April 1997, did not adequately demonstrate a balance of availability and reliability, since there were no performance criteria established for availability of the reactor protection and engineered safety features systems. The additional information submitted by your staff described unique design features contained within the reactor protection system and the engineered safety features actuation system. The team reviewed the additional information, and determined that despite the unique design features a violation of 10 CFR 50.65 occurred because these design features enhance the reliability aspects, but do not provide an adequate basis for determining the availability for the system. We are concerned about this violation because failure to properly demonstrate a balance of availability and reliability for risk-significant systems could result in unacceptable system performance.

9812300007 981026
PDR ADDCK 05000285
G PDR

IEO/1

Violation B involves a failure to satisfy the requirements of 10 CFR 50.65(a)(1). Specifically, this violation involved the failure to establish goals commensurate with safety for functions associated with the 125 Vdc, circulating water, chemical and volume control, emergency core cooling, and the engineered safety features systems. The established goals were insufficient to provide reasonable assurance that the affected functional groups within the systems were capable of fulfilling their intended functions. Your staff failed to perform or establish combinations of technical assessments, corrective actions, and/or monitoring goals for functional groups contained in the aforementioned systems. The NRC has concluded that information regarding the reason for the violation, the corrective actions taken and planned to correct the violation and prevent recurrence is already adequately addressed on the docket in your letter dated July 31, 1998. Therefore, you are not required to respond to this violation unless the description therein does not accurately reflect your corrective actions or your position. In that case, or if you choose to provide additional information, you should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice.

These violations are cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice) and the circumstances surrounding the violations are described in detail in the enclosed report. Please note that you are required to respond to Violation A and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosures, and your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR).

Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

Arthur T. Howell III, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No.: 50-285
License No.: DPR-40

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. NRC Inspection Report
50-285/98-08

cc w/enclosures:

James W. Tills, Manager
Nuclear Licensing
Omaha Public Power District
Fort Calhoun Station FC-2-4 Adm.
P.O. Box 399
Hwy. 75 - North of Fort Calhoun
Fort Calhoun, Nebraska 68023-0399

James W. Chase, Manager
Fort Calhoun Station
P.O. Box 399
Fort Calhoun, Nebraska 68023

Perry D. Robinson, Esq.
Winston & Strawn
1400 L. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3502

Chairman
Washington County Board of Supervisors
Blair, Nebraska 68008

Cheryl Rogers, LLRW Program Manager
Environmental Protection Section
Nebraska Department of Health
301 Centennial Mall, South
P.O. Box 95007
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-5007

J. M. Solymossy, Manager - Fort Calhoun Station
Omaha Public Power District
Fort Calhoun Station FC -1-1 Plant
P.O. Box 399
Hwy. 75 - North of Fort Calhoun
Fort Calhoun, Nebraska 68023

- E-Mail report to T. Frye (TJF)
- E-Mail report to D. Lange (DJL)
- E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)
- E-Mail report to Document Control Desk (DOCDESK)
- E-Mail report to Richard Correia (RPC)
- E-Mail report to Frank Talbot (FXT)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

- Regional Administrator
- DRS Director
- DRS Deputy Director
- DRS-PSB
- DRP Director
- MIS System
- Branch Chief (DRP/B)
- RIV File
- Project Engineer (DRP/B)
- Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)
- Resident Inspector
- DRS Action Item (98-G-00137)(Goines)

DOCUMENT NAME: R:_fcs\fc808rp.pcg

To receive copy of document, indicate in box: "C" = Copy without enclosures "E" = Copy with enclosures "N" = No copy

SRI:MB		RI:MB		RI:PBB		SRI:MB		RI:MB	
PCGage		CAClark		VGGaddy		CEJohnson		WMMcNeill	
12/ /98		12/ /98		12/ /98		12/ /98		12/ /98	
SRI:MB		NRR:SOE		C:MB	E	C:PBB		D:DRS	
CJPaulk		JDWilcox Jr		DAPowers		WDJohnson		ATHowell III	
12/ /98		12/ /98		12/ /98		12/ /98		12/ /98	

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY