



Nebraska Public Power District

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NLS2004011
February 16, 2004

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

Subject: Clarification of Generic Letter 96-06 Safety Evaluation
Cooper Nuclear Station
NRC Docket 50-298, DPR-46

- References:
1. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission letter to Nebraska Public Power District dated November 3, 2003, "Cooper Nuclear Station (CNS) – Final Closeout of Responses to Generic Letter 96-06 (TAC NO. M96799)"
 2. Nebraska Public Power District letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission dated June 9, 2003, "Response to NRC Generic Letter 96-06"

The purpose of this letter is to clarify statements made in a safety evaluation (SE) issued by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in Reference 1 for the Cooper Nuclear Station (CNS). The SE documented closure of Generic Letter 96-06 for CNS, as submitted by Reference 2. The clarification is attached.

If you have any questions regarding this issue please call me at (402) 825-2774.

Sincerely,

Paul V. Fleming
Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Manager

/rer

Attachments

A072

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cc: Regional Administrator w/ attachments
USNRC - Region IV

Senior Project Manager w/ attachments
USNRC - NRR Project Directorate IV-1

Senior Resident Inspector w/ attachments
USNRC

Nebraska Health and Human Services w/ attachments
Department of Regulation and Licensure

NPG Distribution w/o attachments

Records w/ attachments

Attachment

Clarification of Generic Letter 96-06 Safety Evaluation

**Cooper Nuclear Station
Nebraska Public Power District**

1. Section 3.1, second paragraph, first sentence, in the Generic Letter (GL) 96-06 Safety Evaluation (SE) for Cooper Nuclear Station (CNS) states:

"Following a LOOP, the REC pumps will stop and the isolation valves between the REC pumps and the drywell FCUs will close on reduced system pressure."

The isolation valves are electrically powered. The valves will not close following a Loss-of-Offsite Power until the bus is re-energized, either by start of a diesel generator or restoration of offsite power.

2. Section 3.1, second paragraph, fourth sentence, in the GL 96-06 SE states:

"A small MSLB might not cause drywell spray to actuate, resulting in elevated containment temperatures and subsequent voiding in the containment FCUs."

This sentence could be interpreted as stating that drywell spray actuates automatically. Drywell spray at CNS does not actuate automatically. Rather, it is actuated manually by operators when appropriate conditions exist, as directed by the Emergency Operating Procedures.

3. Section 3.1, second paragraph, next to last sentence, in the GL 96-06 SE states:

"In actuality, the isolation valve downstream of the REC pumps has a long opening stroke of 32 seconds."

In the submittal Nebraska Public Power District referred to the opening stroke time of valve REC-MOV-702 as "approximately" 32 seconds. Stating the valve opening time in the SE as a specific 32 seconds rather than "approximately" 32 seconds could cause a reader to think that the opening time must be exactly 32 seconds. The principal consideration here is that a slow valve opening stroke will allow any steam voids that might be present to be swept away without causing a waterhammer.

