

August 13, 2004

Mr. Randall K. Edington  
Vice President-Nuclear and CNO  
Nebraska Public Power District  
P. O. Box 98  
Brownville, NE 68321

SUBJECT: COOPER NUCLEAR STATION - REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION  
REGARDING REVISION OF TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION SURVEILLANCE  
REQUIREMENT 3.3.2.1.4 AND TABLE 3.3.2.1-1 (TAC NO. MC0629)

Dear Mr. Edington:

In letter dated August 25, 2003, Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD or the licensee) requested the NRC staff approve a proposed amendment to revise the Technical Specification (TS) Surveillance Requirement 3.3.2.1.4 and TS Table 3.3.2.1-1 for mathematical symbols and use of Allowable Values in the place of Analytical Limits. In a letter dated November 26, 2003, the NRC staff requested additional information, which was provided in supplemental letter dated March 9, 2004.

The NRC staff has reviewed the supplemental information provided in the March 9, 2004, submittal and determined that additional information is required in order to complete the review of the changes. As agreed upon on August 10, 2004, the licensee will respond to the following request for additional information within 45 days.

The response to question 1 stated: "The calculation Conclusion Section lists a set of permissible rod block values for AL, AV and Operating Setpoint, based on different MCPR [minimum critical power ratio] limits ... Therefore, the setpoints for the various regions were selected based on a MCPR Limit of 1.30..." How does the NPPD justify using what appears to be a slightly less conservative value of MCPR?

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Michelle C. Honcharik, Project Manager, Section 1  
Project Directorate IV  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-298

cc: See next page

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ACCESSION NO: ML042260294

\*See Tad Marsh 7/1/04 deferral memo

\*\*RAI input via e-mail dated 8/9/04

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