

July 19, 2005

Mr. Rick A. Muench
President and Chief Executive Officer
Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation
Post Office Box 411
Burlington, KS 66839

SUBJECT: WOLF CREEK GENERATING STATION - RESPONSE TO GENERIC LETTER
2004-01, "REQUIREMENTS FOR STEAM GENERATOR TUBE INSPECTIONS"
(TAC NO. MC4866)

Dear Mr. Muench:

On August 30, 2004, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Generic Letter (GL) 2004-01, "Requirements for Steam Generator Tube Inspections." The purpose of GL 2004-01 was to obtain information that would enable the NRC staff to determine whether licensees' steam generator (SG) tube inspection programs for nuclear power plants comply with the existing tube inspection requirements, which are in the plant Technical Specifications in conjunction with Appendix B to 10 CFR Part 50.

By letter dated October 27, 2004 (WM 04-0045), Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation (WCNOC) responded to GL 2004-01 for Wolf Creek Generating Station, Unit 1 (WCGS) and stated that the WCGS SGs are four Westinghouse Model F SGs with thermally-treated alloy 600 tubes. In the letter, it was stated that an assessment is made prior to each inspection to verify that the inspection techniques to be used are capable of detecting probable degradation mechanisms. The NRC staff's review of your response in the letter did not identify any concerns with the SG tube inspection practices that were conducted during the last inspection completed at WCGS on October 21, 2003. Subsequent to the letter, new industry information became available regarding SG tube degradation within the tubesheet. As a consequence, WCNOC requested and the NRC granted a license amendment (Amendment No. 162 issued April 28, 2005) modifying the SG tube inspection program in the Technical Specifications. Based on this, the staff concludes that these SG tube inspection practices are in compliance with the existing tube inspection requirements described in the previous paragraph.

This letter closes out TAC No. MC4866. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (301) 415-1307.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jack Donohew, Senior Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate IV
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-482

cc: See next page

Wolf Creek Generating Station

cc:

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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Docket No. 50-482

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