

Mr. R. T. Ridenoure
Vice President - Chief Nuclear Officer
Omaha Public Power District
Fort Calhoun Station FC-2-4 Adm.
Post Office Box 550
Fort Calhoun, NE 68023-0550

August 4, 2005

SUBJECT: FORT CALHOUN STATION, UNIT NO. 1 - AMENDMENT REQUEST -
MEASUREMENT UNCERTAINTY RECAPTURE POWER UPRATE
(TAC NO. MC6656)

Dear Mr. Ridenoure:

By letter dated March 31, 2005, Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) requested an amendment to the operating license for Fort Calhoun Station, Unit 1, that would authorize an increase in the licensed steady-state power level of 1.5 percent (22 MWt). The application was based on the use of the CROSSFLOW™ system for measurement of feedwater flow and the determination of reactor power through the performance of calorimetric calculation. In its application, OPPD requested an approval date of September 30, 2005. By letter dated May 12, 2005, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) accepted the measurement uncertainty recapture (MUR) power uprate application for review.

As you are aware, the NRC staff has questions related to the manner by which a validation of the installation of the CROSSFLOW™ system would be done. In December 2004, the Westinghouse Owners Group (WOG) stated that it would provide the NRC assurance that any plant installing and operating the CROSSFLOW™ technology would maintain the design and licensing basis of the plant. As part of that assurance, the WOG CROSSFLOW™ Task Force (CTF) indicated that it was preparing a comprehensive user guide to assist the operator or systems engineer on how to account for plant-specific conditions in the implementation of the CROSSFLOW™ system. The CROSSFLOW™ Users Guide was submitted to the NRC staff for information on July 19, 2005. The NRC staff is currently arranging a meeting with Westinghouse in September 2005 to discuss its topical report for an X-beam system using the CROSSFLOW™ technology, and the manner by which the implementation guidance can be used to clarify acceptable plant-specific implementation. The NRC staff intends that this meeting will provide the staff with an opportunity to understand how the CTF User Guidelines will be implemented so that our pending and future reviews of MUR applications based on the cross-correlation technology will be more efficient and effective. Therefore, the NRC staff's review of your March 31, 2005, application is constrained by our review of the implementation guidance. On this basis, the NRC staff's final review schedule for your license amendment application will be determined after the meeting in September.

R. Ridenoure

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The NRC staff will be discussing the appropriate change in its review schedule with members of your staff after the completion of the September meeting. If there are any questions, please call me at 301-415-1445.

Sincerely,

/RA by JDonohew for/
Alan B. Wang, Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate IV
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-285

cc: See next page

R. Ridenoure

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Ft. Calhoun Station, Unit 1

cc:

Winston & Strawn
ATTN: James R. Curtiss, Esq.
1400 L Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3502

Chairman
Washington County Board of Supervisors
P.O. Box 466
Blair, NE 68008

Mr. John Hanna, Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
P.O. Box 310
Fort Calhoun, NE 68023

Regional Administrator, Region IV
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400
Arlington, TX 76011-4005

Ms. Sue Semerera, Section Administrator
Nebraska Health and Human Services
Systems
Division of Public Health Assurance
Consumer Services Section
301 Centennial Mall, South
P.O. Box 95007
Lincoln, NE 68509-5007

Mr. David J. Bannister, Manager
Fort Calhoun Station
Omaha Public Power District
Fort Calhoun Station FC-1-1 Plant
P.O. Box 550
Fort Calhoun, NE 68023-0550

Mr. John B. Herman
Manager - Nuclear Licensing
Omaha Public Power District
Fort Calhoun Station FC-2-4 Adm.
P.O. Box 550
Fort Calhoun, NE 68023-0550

Mr. Daniel K. McGhee
Bureau of Radiological Health
Iowa Department of Public Health
Lucas State Office Building, 5th Floor
321 East 12th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319

June 2005