

February 1, 2006

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

SUBJECT: FORT CALHOUN STATION, UNIT 1 - REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION RELATED TO RELIEF REQUEST FOR USE OF
"RADIOGRAPHY USING PHOSPHOR IMAGING PLATE" (TAC NO. MC8843)

Dear Mr. Ridenoure:

By letter dated October 28, 2005, Omaha Public Power District (OPPD/the licensee) submitted a relief request for the Fort Calhoun Station, Unit 1 (FCS). OPPD requested to utilize digital radiography as an alternative to the film radiographic techniques.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has reviewed OPPD's submittal and had a teleconference on January 31, 2006, with OPPD to discuss this submittal. The NRC staff has determined that additional information is needed to complete our review. A request for additional information (RAI) is enclosed. This request was discussed with Thomas Matthews of your staff on January 31, 2006, and it was agreed that a response would be provided within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1445.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Alan B. Wang, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch IV
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-285

Enclosure: RAI

cc w/encl: See next page

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REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
REGARDING RELIEF REQUEST FOR USE OF DIGITAL IMAGING
OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT
FORT CALHOUN STATION, UNIT 1
DOCKET NO. 50-285

By letter dated October 28, 2005, Omaha Public Power District (OPPD/the licensee) submitted a relief request for the Fort Calhoun Station, Unit 1 (FCS). The licensee requested to utilize digital radiography (DR) as an alternative to the film radiographic techniques. The NRC staff has reviewed OPPD's submittal and had a teleconference on January 31, 2006, with OPPD to discuss this submittal. The NRC staff has determined that the following additional information is needed to complete our review:

1. In Attachment 2 of the October 28, 2005, submittal, OPPD stated in the second paragraph of page 1 that the radiographic examinations of all but the containment liner will be performed to the requirements of ASME Section III, 1992 Edition, with no addenda. Provide the justification for referencing this code edition as it is not consistent with the construction codes or Section XI codes referenced in Attachment 1 of the relief request submittal.
2. In Attachment 1 of the relief request, OPPD stated in item 3 of Applicable Code Requirement that "Other than additional training for examiners in the principles and processes of DR, the elements of the radiographic examination process remain unchanged." Identify which edition of the relevant code sections controls the performance of the radiographic examination process including examination procedures and its demonstration requirements, personnel qualification such as the interpretation of the radiographic image, extent of examination (and re-examination), and the acceptance criteria. Also, discuss the potential differences in ISI requirements that may result from your use of various code editions as referenced by the construction codes, Section XI codes, and the code edition pertaining to Mandatory Appendix VIII, "Radiography Using Phosphor Imaging Plate."
3. Provide details regarding the information provided by OPPD's primary contractor that has demonstrated to OPPD that DR, using phosphor imaging plates, will provide an acceptable level of quality and safety. Provide information to support the conclusion that the quality of DR examination results, using phosphor imaging plates, is (at a minimum) equivalent to that provided by film radiograph. If not, discuss the exceptions. Also, discuss and provide the details of the evidence from previous field applications of DR that has demonstrated to OPPD that acceptable results can be achieved in the digital radiographic examinations that are scheduled to be performed in the fall 2006 Refueling Outage at FCS.

Ft. Calhoun Station, Unit 1

cc:

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January 2006