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AUG 13 1984

Docket Nos.: STN 50-482 and 50-483

MEMORANDUM FOR: B. J. Youngblood, Chief
Licensing Branch No. 1
Division of Licensing

FROM: Joseph J. Holonich, Project Manager
Licensing Branch No. 1
Division of Licensing

Paul W. O'Connor, Project Manager
Licensing Branch No. 1
Division of Licensing

SUBJECT: FORIHCOMING MEETING WITH UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY AND
KANSAS GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY

DATE & TIME: Tuesday, August 14, 1984
1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Phillips Building, Room P-422
7920 Norfolk Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland

PURPOSE: To appeal the staff's position on the SNUPPS Safe
Shutdown Analysis (see enclosed request).

PARTICIPANTS: NRC KG&E

W. Houston	G. Rathbun, et. al.
W. V. Johnston	
T. Novak	<u>UE</u>
B. J. Youngblood	A. C. Passwater
V. Benaroya	
J. Holonich	<u>SNUPPS</u>
R. Eberly	M. Fletcher, et. al.
J. Wilson	
W. LeFave	
N. Fioravante	
M. Murphy	
C. Ramsey	

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Joseph J. Holonich, Project Manager
Licensing Branch No. 1
Division of Licensing

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY: *J. W. G. et al.*

J. W. G. et al.
Paul W. O'Connor, Project Manager
Licensing Branch No. 1
Division of Licensing

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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Joseph J. Holonich

Joseph J. Holonich, Project Manager
Licensing Branch No. 1
Division of Licensing

Joseph J. Holonich for

Paul W. O'Connor, Project Manager
Licensing Branch No. 1
Division of Licensing

cc: See next page

SNUPPS

Mr. D. F. Schnell
Vice President - Nuclear
Union Electric Company
P. O. Box 149
St. Louis, Missouri 63166

Mr. Glen L. Koester
Vice President - Nuclear
Kansas Gas and Electric Company
201 North Market Street
P. O. Box 208
Wichita, Kansas 67201

cc: Gerald Charnoff, Esq.
Thomas A. Baxter, Esq.
Shaw, Pittman, Potts & Trowbridge
1800 M Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

Mayor Howard Steffen
Chamois, Missouri 65024

Jay Silberg, Esquire
Shaw, Pittman, Potts & Trowbridge
1800 M Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

Kansas City Power & Light Company
ATTN: Mr. D. T. McPhee
Vice President - Production
1330 Baltimore Avenue
Kansas City, Missouri 64141

Mr. Donald W. Capone
Manager - Nuclear Engineering
Union Electric Company
P. O. Box 149
St. Louis, Missouri 63166

Mr. Nicholas A. Petrick
Executive Director, SNUPPS
5 Choke Cherry Road
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Ms. Mary Ellen Salava
Route 1, Box 56
Burlington, Kansas 66839

Mr. J. E. Birk
Assistant to the General Counsel
Union Electric Company
St. Louis, Missouri 63166

Eric A. Eisen, Esq.
Birch, Horton, Bittner & Moore
1140 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

Mr. Howard Bundy
Resident Inspector/Wolf Creek NPS
c/o U. S. NRC
P. O. Box 311
Burlington, Kansas 66839

Ms. Wanda Christy
515 N. 1st Street
Burlington, Kansas 66839

Mr. Michael C. Keener
State Corporation Commission
State of Kansas
Fourth Floor, State Office Building
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Ms. Majorie Reilly
Energy Chairman of the League of
Women Voters of University City, MO
7065 Pershing Avenue
University City, Missouri 63130

Mr. John Heisler
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Resident Inspectors Office
RR #1
Steedman, Missouri 65077

Mr. Fred Lukey
Presiding Judge, Montgomery County
Rural Route
Rhineland, Missouri 65069

Terri Sculley, Director
Special Projects Division
Kansas Corporation Commission
State Office Building, 4th Floor
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Professor William H. Miller
Missouri Kansas Section, American
Nuclear Society
Department of Nuclear Engineering
1026 Engineering Building
University of Missouri
Columbia, Missouri 65211

cc: Robert G. Wright
Associate Judge, Eastern
District County Court
Callaway County, Missouri
Route #1
Fulton, Missouri

Lewis C. Green, Esq.
Green, Hennings & Henry
Attorney for Joint Intervenors
314 N. Broadway, Suite 1830
St. Louis, Missouri 63102

Mr. Earl Brown
School District Superintendent
P. O. Box 9
Kingdom City, Missouri 65262

Mr. Samuel J. Birk
R. R. #1, Box 243
Morrison, Missouri 65061

Mr. Harold Lottman
Presiding Judge, Dasconade County
Route 1
Owensville, Missouri 65066

A. Scott Cauger, Esq.
Assistant General Counsel for the
Missouri Public Service Comm.
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Mr. John G. Reed
Route #1
Kingdom City, Missouri 65262

Mr. Dan I. Bolef, President
Kay Drey, Representative
Board of Directors Coalition
for the Environment
St. Louis Region
6267 Delmar Boulevard
University City, Missouri 63130

Mr. Donald Bollinger, Member
Missourians for Safe Energy
6267 Delmar Boulevard
University City, Missouri 63130

John H. Simpson, Esq.
Attorney for Intervenors
4350 Johnson Drive, Suite 120
Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66205

Mr. James G. Keppler
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region III
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Mr. John T. Collins
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza, Suite 1000
Arlington, Texas 76011

Mr. Joe Mulholland
Manager of Power Supply & Engineering
Kansas Electric Power Cooperative, Inc.
P. O. Box 4877
Gage Center Station
Topeka, Kansas 66604

C. Edward Peterson, Esq.
Legal Division
Kansas Corporation Commission
Fourth Floor
State Office Building
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Brian P. Cassidy, Regional Counsel
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Region I
J. W. McCormack POCII
Boston, Massachusetts 02109

SNUPPS

Standardized Nuclear Unit
Power Plant System

5 Choke Cherry Road
Rockville, Maryland 20850
(301) 869-8010

Nicholas A. Petrick
Executive Director

August 10, 1984

SLNRC 84- 0106 FILE: 0278
SUBJ: Fire Protection Review

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Docket Nos.: STN 50-482 and STN 50-483

- Reference:
1. SLNRC 82-046, dated November 15, 1982: Same Subject
 2. NUREG-0881, Supplement No. 3, dated August 1983: Safety Evaluation Report Related to Operation of Wolf Creek Generating Station, Unit No. 1
 3. NUREG-0830, Supplement No. 3, dated May 1984: Safety Evaluation Report Related to Operation of Callaway Plant, Unit No. 1

Dear Mr. Denton:

During a fire protection audit at the Wolf Creek Generating Station the week of July 30, 1984, the NRC audit team, from Region IV of the Office of Inspection and Enforcement (OIE), questioned the assumptions of the control room fire hazards analysis for the SNUPPS plants - Callaway Plant Unit No. 1 and Wolf Creek Generating Station Unit No. 1. The NRC audit team also imposed a new control room fire scenario and requested to review SNUPPS design provisions or procedures which would demonstrate the capability to mitigate the new scenario. This new scenario requires immediate evacuation of the control room by plant operators (who may be allowed to perform one or two quick actions in the course of departing) and causes immediate loss of function or spurious operation (due to fire-induced electrical shorts, etc.) of any or all plant equipment controlled from the control room, i.e., complete and total loss of the control room.

The SNUPPS design and procedural controls for mitigation of postulated control room fires are described in the "SNUPPS Control Room Fire Hazards Analysis" report which was submitted by Reference 1. This analysis clearly states that immediate evacuation and conflagration of the control room or immediate loss of function and/or spurious function of control systems are not assumed in the SNUPPS plants. Based on the

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construction of the cabinets and size of the postulated credible fires, the analysis supports the passage of some small amount of time (greater than four minutes) before the adverse consequences of fire damage occur. Prior to submittal of Reference 1, the assumptions of the SNUPPS analysis were presented in detail and discussed at a meeting with the appropriate review branches of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (ONRR) on October 19, 1982. The purpose of this meeting was to ascertain the acceptability of the assumptions especially those concerning magnitude of the fire, definition of acceptable repair activities, and time to respond prior to the assumption of fire damage effects. Based on the control room fire hazards analysis and feedback from the meeting with NRC staff, the SNUPPS Utilities modified the design of the SNUPPS plants to incorporate isolation switches to preclude the need to make repairs to certain electrical control circuits. The NRC staff in References 2 and 3 concluded that the SNUPPS Control Room Fire Hazards Analysis was acceptable.

At the recent Wolf Creek Audit, the audit team stated that they did not reject the SNUPPS Control Room Fire Hazards Analysis or the plant procedures which are based on that analysis. However, the audit team indicated that the control room fire concern would be an audit "open item" until such time as Kansas Gas and Electric Company produces a procedure to shut the plant down using a new fire scenario. Since this procedure cannot be produced until a new analysis is performed, hardware modifications are analyzed and operator response requirements are studied, the existing analysis for credible fires has, in effect, been rejected.

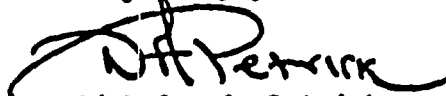
A meeting between the SNUPPS Utilities and the NRC staff was held on August 10, 1984 to discuss the postulated control room fire. The NRC staff stated that the concern was not the development of a new procedure but independence of the SNUPPS alternate shutdown equipment from the control room. The NRC staff did not consider the imposition of immediate evacuation and immediate electrical damage resulting from an exposure fire to be a new position and stated that the SNUPPS Control Room Fire Hazards Analysis was not clear regarding the assumption of some time delay before the adverse consequences of fire damage occur. The SNUPPS Utilities stated that the previously approved analysis is clearly based on the assumption of time delay prior to damage and that the imposition of immediate damage represents a new regulatory position for the SNUPPS plants.

To date, the SNUPPS fire protection design has been subjected to a licensing review and four site audits/walkdowns: ONRR, 10/17-20/1983, Callaway; DNKR, 2/7-8/84, Wolf Creek; OIE, 3/84-4/84, Callaway; OIE, 7/30-8/3/84, Wolf Creek. Because of the SNUPPS design provisions for fire protection (for example, separate train-related cable spreading rooms), these extensive NRC reviews have resulted in few plant modifications to meet regulatory positions. Nevertheless, the SNUPPS Utilities agreed to install certain plant design changes (control room isolation switches, additional sprinkler heads in two plant areas,

a control room ventilation system smoke detector and a cable tray fire stop) to resolve NRC review concerns. Even prior to installation of these design changes the overall SNUPPS plant fire protection design provided a level of protection for public health and safety substantially above acceptable levels.

The new control room fire position presented by the audit team at Wolf Creek represents a significant change in the previously approved regulatory position regarding control room fires in the SNUPPS plants. Therefore, the SNUPPS Utilities request that this new regulatory position be reviewed in accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR Part 50.109. In addition, the SNUPPS Utilities request a meeting with appropriate NRC management in accordance with the procedures for disposition of backfitting requirements which have been implemented by the Offices of Inspection and Enforcement and Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

Very truly yours,



Nicholas A. Petrick

MHF/nld12a14&15

cc: D. F. Schnell
G. L. Koester
D. T. McPhee
J. Neilsen/B. Little
H. Bundy
B. L. Forney
D. R. Hunter
V. Stello, Jr.

UE
KGE
KCPL
USNRC/CAL
USNRC/WC
USNRC/R111
USNRC/RIV
USNRC

SLNRC 84- 0106

Page 4

bcc: F. D. Crawford
D. W. Capone
M. L. Johnson
J. A. Bailey
M. A. Hannah
D. E. Shafer
A. C. Passwater
S. E. Miltenberger
F. T. Rhodes
J. H. Smith
L. R. Benson
J. O. Cermak

KCPL
UE
KGE
KGE/HC
KGE
UE
UE
UE/CAL
KGE/HC
B
W
Staff