

July 29, 2008
EN-08-046

OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT
NOTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANT ENFORCEMENT ACTION

Licensee: Nebraska Public Power District (EA-08-124)
Cooper Nuclear Station
Docket No. 05000298

Subject: ISSUANCE OF FINAL SIGNIFICANCE DETERMINATION AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

This is to inform the Commission that a Notice of Violation associated with a White significance determination process finding will be issued on or around August 1, 2008, to Nebraska Public Power District, as a result of inspections at Cooper Nuclear Station. This White finding, an issue of low to moderate safety significance which may require additional U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission inspections, involves a loose electrical (amphenol-type) connection which resulted in the failure of the Division 2 emergency diesel generator.

A Notice of Violation is included based on a violation of TS 5.4.1.a which requires that written procedures be established, implemented, and maintained, covering the activities specified in Regulatory Guide 1.33, Revision 2, Appendix A. Regulatory Guide 1.33, requires, in part, that maintenance affecting performance of safety-related equipment should be performed in accordance with written procedures or instructions appropriate to the circumstances. Specifically, on December 29, 2000, during reassembly of electrical connections on Diesel Generator 2, Work Order 003915 did not include guidance to ensure that thread locking compounds or other measures would be utilized to ensure electrical connections would not loosen during engine operation, as previously identified in 1995. Additionally, since September 30, 1988, the licensee failed to use procedures appropriate to the circumstances for performance of periodic electrical inspections to check the tightness of engine-mounted amphenol-type connections. Specifically, Maintenance Procedure 7.3.8.2, "Diesel Generator Electrical Examination and Maintenance," inappropriately excluded engine mounted components from the scope of electrical connection tightness checks. The inadequate work order instruction and maintenance procedure resulted in the failure of Diesel Generator 2 during testing on January 15, 2008.

It should be noted that the licensee has not been specifically informed of the enforcement action. The schedule of issuance and notification is:

Mailing of Final Significance Determination	August 1, 2008
Telephone Notification of Licensee	August 1, 2008

The State of Nebraska will be notified.
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