

April 30, 2009

LICENSEE: Nebraska Public Power District
FACILITY: Cooper Nuclear Station
SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF SITE AUDIT RELATED TO THE REVIEW OF THE LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR COOPER NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1 (TAC NOS. MD9763 AND MD9737)

From March 30, 2009 to April 3, 2009, a review team consisting of nine U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staffs participated in a site audit at the Cooper Nuclear Station (CNS), related to the environmental review of the CNS license renewal application (LRA). The primary goal of the site visit was to review documentation, gather information to ensure that environmental requirements of license renewal as codified in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 51 (10 CFR Part 51) are met, and to interface with officials in Federal, State and local government agencies to obtain information as needed.

Enclosed is a list of NRC staff, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ), Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) employees and representatives who participated in the site audit, as well as, members from Columbia Generating Station (scheduled to submit LRA in June 2010), who observed the audit.

On Tuesday, March 31, 2009, the environmental review team participated in a general site tour of the CNS site with NPPD staff. The general site tour focused on areas relevant to the environmental review, including the intake structure, discharge structure, site structures, the site environs, and the archaeology onsite and the immediate areas. During the rest of the site audit, the team members examined the data used by NPPD in preparation of the Environmental Report and also met with NPPD representatives with corresponding environmental expertise in smaller groups. These break-out groups participated in various activities, including tours of the radioactive waste management areas, the meteorological tower and instruments, the transmission line rights of way, the intake and discharge structures, and the surrounding aquatic environment.

Team members met at the CNS with local officials from NDEQ, MDNR, and EPA Region 7. Additionally, team members met offsite with officials from the State Historical Preservation Office and review the archaeological-site files in Lincoln Nebraska. Information gathered through the offsite meetings will assist the environmental review team in its evaluation of cultural resource impacts, as a part of preparing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for CNS license renewal. NPPD representatives provided a brief presentation on its process for identifying new and significant information. No new and significant information was identified by NPPD.

At the conclusion of the site audit, the NRC staff summarized the status of the review with NPPD representatives. Three follow-up items were discussed with NPPD management team:

(1) information needs identified and tracked by the audit team and by CNS audit supporting personnel during the audit, which would be provided via follow-up information-exchange between audit team specialists and CNS counterparts, (2) information for docketing to be used in the EIS documentation, and (3) additional information related to Endangered Species Act (pallid sturgeon) to be followed up via informal consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service who was not available during the audit.

The NRC staff indicated that the review team did not identify any significant issues during its site visit or during offsite visits with State and local agencies. However, the NRC staff further indicated that the review was ongoing. At the conclusion of the audit, NRC and NPPD had reached an agreement that NPPD would formally submit the additional reference materials and answers to the remaining site audit questions, including providing supplemental information to the Environmental Report (e.g., updated information on the new meteorological tower project). A formal request for additional information for this information is scheduled to be sent to NPPD by April 30, 2009. NPPD will respond within 30 days from the date of the requesting letter.

/RA/

Tam Tran, Project Manager
Project Branch 1
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-298

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NAME	TTran	IKing	ESayoc	DPelton
DATE	04/16/09	04/20/09	04/16/09	04/30/09

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Memorandum to Nebraska Public Power District from T. Tran, dated April 30, 2009

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COOPER NUCLEAR STATION, UNIT 1
ENVIRONMENTAL SITE AUDIT**

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ENCLOSURE

Cooper Nuclear Station

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- 2 -

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- 3 -

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