



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
612 EAST LAMAR BLVD, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4125

October 26, 2009

Stewart B. Minahan, Vice
President-Nuclear and CNO
Nebraska Public Power District
72676 648A Avenue
Brownville, NE 68321

SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT FOLLOWUP LETTER – COOPER NUCLEAR STATION

Dear Mr. Minahan:

On October 26, 2009, the NRC staff completed, as part of our quarterly review, an update of our assessment of Cooper Nuclear Station. The assessment evaluated performance indicators and inspection results. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of your safety performance during this period and our plans for a future inspection at your facility. This letter supplements, but does not supersede, our mid-cycle assessment letter issued on September 1, 2009.

Overall, Cooper Nuclear Station operated in a manner that preserved the public's health and safety and fully met the cornerstone objectives. Plant performance for the most recent quarter of the assessment cycle was within the Licensee Response Column of the NRC's Action Matrix based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all performance indicators indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green).

During the fourth quarter of the 2008 assessment cycle, plant performance entered the Regulatory Response Column of the NRC's Action Matrix as a result of a White performance indicator for the Mitigating Systems Performance Index - AC Power. This performance indicator returned to Green in the first quarter of 2009.

On the basis of the White performance indicator, we conducted a supplemental inspection at Copper Nuclear Station using Inspection Procedure 95001, "Supplemental Inspection for One or Two White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area," which was completed on July 13, 2009. This supplemental inspection was conducted to provide assurance that the root and contributing causes for the White performance indicator were understood, to provide assurance that the extent of condition and extent of cause were identified, and to provide assurance that the corrective actions are sufficient to address the root and contributing causes and prevent their recurrence. The supplemental inspection determined that you performed a comprehensive and thorough evaluation in which specific problems were identified, an adequate root cause evaluation was performed and corrective actions were taken or planned to prevent recurrence.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of the NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact Vince Gaddy at 817-860-8141 with any questions you may have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Dwight D. Chamberlain, Director
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Docket: 50-298
License: DPR-46

Enclosure:
Cooper Nuclear Station Inspection/Activity Plan

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ADAMS: <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUNSI Review Complete	Reviewer Initials: GM
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publicly Available	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sensitive
Category A.	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-publicly Available	<input type="checkbox"/> Sensitive
RIV/SPE/DRP/C	C:DRP/C	D:DRP
DProulx	GMiller	DDChamberlain
<i>/RA/</i>	<i>/RA/</i>	<i>/RA/</i>
10/21/2009	10/22/2009	10/26/2009

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