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10 CFR 26.719(c)(1)

0CAN031001

March 18, 2010

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Unsatisfactory Laboratory Testing Report
Arkansas Nuclear One – Units 1 and 2
Docket Nos. 50-313 and 50-368
License Nos. DPR-51 and NPF-6

Dear Sir or Madam:

On February 3, 2010, Arkansas Nuclear One (ANO) Fitness-for-Duty (FFD) Staff received inaccurate test results from blind Quality Assurance (QA) drug testing samples that were submitted to a Health and Human Services (HHS) Certified Laboratory for analysis.

A blind QA sample containing target levels of a controlled substance were analyzed by Quest Diagnostic Laboratory in Lenexa, Kansas. The result of this sample was reported to ANO as invalid. The ANO FFD Staff completed an investigation pertaining to the blind sample error on March 2, 2010, and pursuant to the reporting requirements of 10 CFR 26.719(c)(1), the investigation results and corrective actions are documented in Attachment 1.

There are no new commitments contained in this submittal. Should you have any questions concerning this issue, please contact me.

Sincerely,

DBB/slp

Attachments: 1. Arkansas Nuclear One – Blind QA Sample Error Investigation Report

cc: Elmo Collins
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Attachment 1 to

0CAN031001

Arkansas Nuclear One Blind Quality Assurance
Sample Error Investigation Report

Arkansas Nuclear One Blind Quality Assurance
Sample Error Investigation Report

Identification of Error:

One blind Quality Assurance (QA) sample that had been certified by the manufacturer to be positive for phencyclidine (PCP) was reported as invalid due to gas chromatograph / mass spectrometer (GC/MS) interference by the Quest Diagnostics Laboratory (Quest - Lenexa) in Lenexa, Kansas.

The sample identified as lot number 1001PCP with an expiration date of July 15, 2010, was purchased from Professional Toxicology and certified by a Health and Human Services (HHS) certified laboratory with a target PCP level of 44 ng/ml. The specimen was received in the Arkansas Nuclear One (ANO) Fitness-for-Duty (FFD) department on January 27, 2010, shipped to the Quest - Lenexa laboratory on January 28, 2010, and received in the laboratory on January 29, 2010. On February 3, 2010, the results were reported as "Invalid – GC/MS Interference". The other 29 blind samples submitted during the calendar quarter were accurately reported.

Investigation:

Upon discovery of the testing error, Quest - Lenexa and Professional Toxicology were notified and requested to initiate investigations at each facility to determine a cause for the discrepancy.

Professional Toxicology reported that lot number 1001PCP had initially been certified at the Quest – Lenexa laboratory and confirmed that other samples from this lot number have been processed at other HHS laboratories without any interference or other errors being reported. The other HHS certified laboratories were also contacted by Professional Toxicology and requested to re-evaluate their GM/MS results to specifically look for contaminates or interfering substances. No such substances were identified.

Since the incident was reported, samples of lot number 1001PCP have been obtained directly from Professional Toxicology by Quest – Lenexa. An interfering substance appears to be present; however, Quest – Lenexa, has been unable to identify the interfering substance.

The investigation by Professional Toxicology determined that in recent months, the process used by Quest – Lenexa to verify the presence of PCP using GC/MS had been modified. Since this change, PCP samples manufactured by Professional Toxicology have, on occasion, produced interference with GC/MS verification. No changes have been made in the preparation or processing of PCP samples by Professional Toxicology.

PCP samples produced by other manufactures continue to be processed by Quest – Lenexa without error; however, PCP specimens from Professional Toxicology continue to be problematic. Quest – Lenexa has assigned a subject matter expert to work with the toxicologist to investigate this issue. Their investigation will focus on identifying the interfering substance and adapting their analytical procedure to work around it.

Cause:

Subject matter experts from Quest – Lenexa continue to focus on identifying the interfering substance. The cause of the PCP reporting discrepancy is undetermined.

Corrective Actions:

On March 2, 2010, the ANO FFD Staff completed an investigation which is documented in Entergy's corrective action program. As stated in the investigation, neither Quest – Lenexa nor Professional Toxicology could conclusively explain the unsatisfactory test results; however, Quest – Lenexa has assigned a subject matter expert to work with the toxicologist to investigate this issue. Their investigation will focus on identifying the interfering substance and adapting their analytical procedure to work around it. Additionally, other plants within the Entergy fleet were notified of the Quest – Lenexa reporting error.