



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

September 2, 2010

Mr. Matthew W. Sunseri, President and
Chief Executive Officer
Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation
P.O. Box 411
Burlington, KS 66839

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF PUBLIC MEETING WITH
WOLF CREEK NUCLEAR OPERATING CORPORATION

Dear Mr. Sunseri:

On August 25, 2010, representatives of Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation met with NRC personnel at the NRC Region IV Offices in Arlington, Texas, to discuss on the initiatives being implemented to improve station performance and the station's preparations for an upcoming 95002 supplemental inspection. The list of attendees and a copy of the presentation are included as Enclosures 1 and 2.

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

Sincerely,

/RA/

Geoffrey Miller
Chief, Project Branch B
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket: 50-482
License: NPF-42

Enclosures:

1. Attendance List
2. Presentation Slides

Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation - 2 -

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SUNSI Rev Compl.	X Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	ADAMS	X Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Reviewer Initials	RWD
Publicly Avail	X Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Sensitive	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes X No	Sens. Type Initials	RWD
RIV/DRP:SPE/B	C:DRP/B				
RWDDeese	GBMiller				
/RA/	/RA/				
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T=Telephone

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NRC PUBLIC MEETING ATTENDANCE

LICENSEE/FACILITY	Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Company Wolf Creek Generating Station
DATE/TIME	August 25, 2010 / 12:00 p.m. CDT
LOCATION	NRC Region IV Office Arlington, TX
NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	ORGANIZATION
Steven A. Henry	Wolf Creek
Jennifer L. Kunk	WCNOC
Diane M. Hooper	WCNOC
Gary J. Pendergrass	WCNOC
S.E. HEDGES	WCNOC
M. W. Sunseri	WCNOC
FRED W. MADON	LUMINANT POWER
Jeff Clark	NRC
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Wayne Sifre	NRC
Lara Uselding	NRC
Chuck Casto	NRC - RIV

NRC PUBLIC MEETING ATTENDANCE

LICENSEE/FACILITY	Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Company Wolf Creek Generating Station
DATE/TIME	August 25, 2010 / 12:00 p.m. CDT
LOCATION	NRC Region IV Office Arlington, TX
NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	ORGANIZATION
(via telephone) Balwant Singhal	NRC / NRR - Wolf Creek Project Mgr.
(via telephone) Chris Long	NRC - Wolf Creek Sr. Resident
(via telephone) Elaine Hirvo	Platts
Rick Deese	NRC - RIV
Geoff Miller	NRC - RIV

Summary of Performance

Wolf Creek
Nuclear Operating Corporation
Aug. 25, 2010



Introduction

Matt Sunseri



Agenda



- Opening comments
- Station improvement action plan
 - Operational Focus
 - Nuclear Safety Culture
 - Problem Identification and Resolution
 - Human Performance
- 95002 readiness

Introductions



- Matt Sunseri, president and CEO
- Steve Hedges, site vice president
- Gary Pendergrass, director Plant Engineering
- Steve Henry, acting plant manager
- Jennifer Yunk, station improvement manager
- Diane Hooper, supervisor Licensing

Opening Comments



- Station improvement and readiness for 95002 inspection
- Performance in the areas of:
 - Unplanned Scrams per 7,000 Hours
 - Unplanned Scrams with Complications
 - Safety System Functional Failures
- Performance decline gradual; there is not one cause

Opening Comments



- We have a comprehensive and living action plan
- Our action plan covers many areas including:
 - Problem Identification and Resolution
 - Equipment Reliability
 - Human Performance
 - Operating Experience

Opening Comments



- Safety Conscious Work Environment is strong
 - People care enough to report
 - Environment of trust exists
- Safety culture - we have actions to improve it in several areas:
 - Decision Making
 - Resources
 - Corrective Action
 - Operating Experience

Station Improvement

Steve Hedges



Station Improvement Scope



- Scope of station improvement is much broader than just addressing the white performance indicators
 - Essential service water system
 - Auxiliary feedwater system issues
 - Switchyard and grid reliability (General Design Criteria 17)
 - Gas accumulation

Station Improvement Scope



- Key evaluations
 - Crosscutting theme in Problem Identification and Resolution
 - Adverse trend in Human Performance
 - Traditional enforcement actions
 - Unplanned Scrams per 7,000 Hours
 - Unplanned Scrams with Complications
 - Safety System Functional Failures

Evaluation Conclusions



- Management has inconsistently aligned organizations and priorities to an operational focus (PI&R)
- Overconfidence has limited our ability to manage adverse critical equipment conditions through the Work Controls and Corrective Action processes (PI&R)

Evaluation Conclusions



- The station's nuclear safety culture has not always demonstrated a shared bias for action (PI&R)
- Human performance behaviors have not been reinforced and are undermined by an increase in the tolerance of risk (e.g. long-term equipment issues and acceptance of compensatory measures) (PI&R & HU)

Evaluation Conclusions



- Non-conservative decision making and minimal engagement by the Leadership Team in resolving regulatory compliance ISSUES (Traditional Enforcement)
- Insufficient preventive maintenance led to safety system equipment failures and scrams (Scrams/SEFF)
- Oversight program structure was more compliance-based than performance-based (PI&R)

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Actions



- The actions from our evaluations encompass two main areas:
 - Operational Focus
 - Nuclear Safety Culture
 - Problem Identification and Resolution
 - Human Performance

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Actions



Operational Focus

- Operations is the demanding customer
- Organizational re-alignment
- The plant manager implemented a station improvement plan to prioritize important equipment issues, station initiative activities and corrective actions to prevent recurrence

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Actions



Station Improvement Plan

- Improved daily operational focus by:
 - Shift managers (SM) driving the organization
 - Identifying immediate concerns for action
 - Long-standing items owned
 - Each crew SM owns an area such as:
 - Equipment out-of-service log items
 - Operator work around and burdens
 - Long-term clearance units
 - Long-standing items being fixed
 - Metrics being developed

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Actions

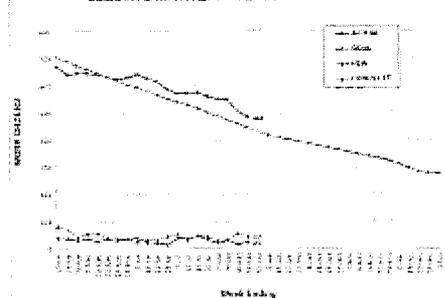


Station Improvement Plan

- Station initiatives entered into Corrective Action Program
- Corrective actions to prevent recurrence (CAPRs) being reviewed by CARB

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ELECTIVE MAINTENANCE WORK OFF CURVE



Actions



Operational Focus

- Identify and promote mission critical behaviors such that leadership fosters an operationally-focused work environment
 - Personnel not satisfied to accept equipment problems and human errors that challenge our mission
- Incorporate into Human Performance Program and station training

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Actions

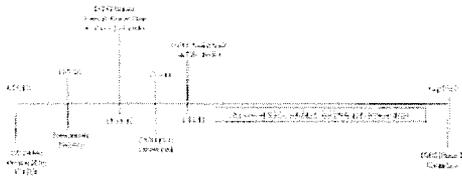


Operational Focus

- Align the Corrective Action Program and Work Controls Process to RIS 2005-20
- Operational risk assessment changes
- Engineering evaluation improvements
- Preventive maintenance program improvements

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Preventive Maintenance (PM) Optimization



Actions



Nuclear Safety Culture

- Align the leadership team around lessons learned for a robust nuclear safety culture program
- Develop and implement a long-term strategy to engrain in the station nuclear safety culture aspects and incorporate them into our processes, such as human performance and observation programs

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Actions

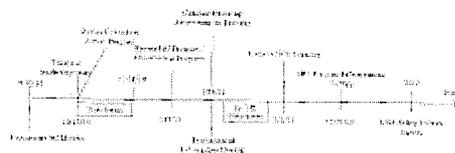


Nuclear Safety Culture

- Problem Identification and Resolution
 - Evaluation quality and consistency
 - External peer support
 - Revise Corrective Action Program procedures to require interim measures of effectiveness and safety culture analysis
 - Improve Operating Experience Program

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NUCLEAR SAFETY CULTURE



Actions



- Update the station's oversight strategy to better define the effectiveness of:
 - Quality
 - Performance Improvement
 - External Review Committee
- Implement a strategic benchmarking plan that considers performance gaps and selects industry top performers

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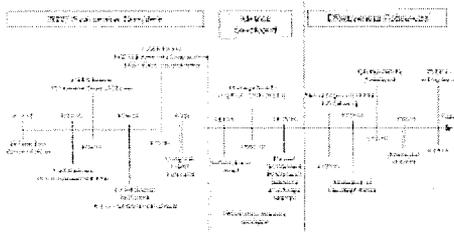
Measurements of Success



- Quantitative and qualitative measures for:
 - Operability Evaluations
 - CAP Evaluations
 - Licensee Event Reports
 - Engineering Evaluations
- Nuclear safety culture
 - Identifying weaknesses at a precursor level by trending RCEs and ACEs at the aspect level
 - Identification or development of indicators that provide a comprehensive view
- Station Improvement Plan

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95002 Readiness



Closing Remarks

Matt Sunseri



Closing Remarks



- Our action plan is a living plan
- Increase safety margins by improving performance in:
 - Problem Identification and Resolution
 - Equipment Reliability
 - Human Performance
 - Operating Experience
- Leverage strong Safety Conscious Work Environment to engage the station for long-term improvement
- We will be ready by Oct. 18 for the 95002 inspection

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