

From: Wilkins, Lynnea
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2011 5:04 PM
To: McCutchen, Edward L.
Cc: Burkhardt, Janet; Lent, Susan
Subject: Acceptance of LAR for Implementing a 24-Month Fuel Cycle and Adoption of TSTF-493, Revision 4, Option A (ME7169)

Ed,

By letter dated September 16, 2011 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML11264A1651), Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) requested an amendment to the Facility Operating License for the Cooper Nuclear Station (CNS). The proposed amendment would revise the CNS Technical Specifications (TS) to support operation with 24-month fuel cycles, in accordance with the guidance of Generic Letter 91-04.

Additionally, NPPD is including with this License Amendment Request an amendment to incorporate the NRC approved TSTF-493, Revision 4, to be consistent with Option A. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review. The acceptance review is also intended to identify whether the application has any readily apparent information insufficiencies in its characterization of the regulatory requirements or the licensing basis of the plant.

Consistent with Section 50.90 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), an amendment to the license (including the technical specifications) must fully describe the changes requested, and following as far as applicable, the form prescribed for original applications. Section 50.34 of 10 CFR addresses the content of technical information required. This section stipulates that the submittal address the design and operating characteristics, unusual or novel design features, and principal safety considerations.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the staff to proceed with its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. If additional information is needed for the staff to complete its technical review, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1377.

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