



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

December 6, 2011

Mr. Brian J. O'Grady
Vice President-Nuclear and CNO
Nebraska Public Power District
72676 648A Avenue
Brownville, NE 68321

SUBJECT: COOPER NUCLEAR STATION - REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
RE: 60-DAY RESPONSE TO BULLETIN 2011-01, "MITIGATING STRATEGIES"
(TAC NO. ME6420)

Dear Mr. O'Grady:

On May 11, 2011, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Bulletin 2011-01, 'Mitigating Strategies' (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML111250360), to all holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors, except those that have permanently ceased operation and have certified that fuel has been removed from the reactor vessel. The purpose of the bulletin was to obtain a comprehensive verification that licensees' mitigating strategies to maintain or restore core cooling, spent fuel cooling, and containment following large explosions or fires were in compliance with the requirements in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 50.54(hh)(2). The bulletin requested information on licensees' 10 CFR 50.54(hh)(2) mitigating strategies in light of the recent events at Japan's Fukushima Daiichi facility to determine if (1) additional efforts are needed to ensure compliance with current requirements, (2) whether enhancement to the existing regulations and guidance are necessary, and/or assessment of program implementation is needed, (2) the current inspection program should be enhanced, or (3) to determine if further regulatory action is warranted.

The bulletin required two sets of responses pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 50.54(f). The first responses were due 30 days after issuance of the bulletin. By letter dated June 10, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML11164A266), Nebraska Public Power District (the licensee), provided a response to the first set of questions for Cooper Nuclear Station. The second responses were due 60 days after issuance of the bulletin. By letter dated July 7, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML11192A032), the licensee responded to this second set of questions.

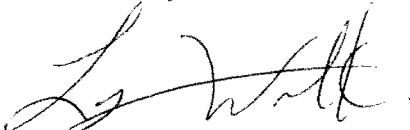
The NRC staff has reviewed the information provided in your letters dated June 10 and July 7, 2011, and determined that additional information is needed for the NRC staff to complete its review of your 60-day response to the bulletin. The request for additional information (RAI) was e-mailed to Mr. Edward McCutchen and others of your staff on November 17, 2011 (ADAMS Accession No. ML113220241). On November 28, 2011, Ms. LuAnn Bray of your staff stated that a clarifying call was not needed. It was agreed that a response to the RAI would be received within 30 days of receipt of this letter. The RAI is enclosed.

B. O'Grady

- 2 -

If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-1377 or via e-mail at lynnea.wilkins@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lynnea E. Wilkins". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "W".

Lynnea E. Wilkins, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch IV
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-298

Enclosure:
Request for Additional Information

cc w/encl: Distribution via Listserv

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

60-DAY RESPONSE TO BULLETIN 2011-01, "MITIGATING STRATEGIES"

NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

COOPER NUCLEAR STATION

DOCKET NO. 50-298

On May 11, 2011, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Bulletin 2011-01, "Mitigating Strategies" (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML111250360), to all holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors, except those that have permanently ceased operation and have certified that fuel has been removed from the reactor vessel. The purpose of the bulletin was to obtain a comprehensive verification that licensees' mitigating strategies to maintain or restore core cooling, spent fuel cooling, and containment following large explosions or fires were in compliance with the requirements in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 50.54(hh)(2).

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The NRC staff has reviewed the information provided in your letters dated June 10 and July 7, 2011, and determined that additional information is needed for the NRC staff to complete its review of your 60-day response to the bulletin.

1. Please describe in detail how you ensure that a vehicle is available to move the B.5.b portable pump and other B.5.b equipment to the appropriate place when needed.

The bulletin requested that each licensee describe in detail the controls for ensuring equipment needed to execute the mitigating strategies will be available when needed. A vehicle is typically needed to implement the strategies since the portable pump and other equipment is stored away from target areas.

2. Please identify the minimum inventory frequency for equipment needed for the mitigating strategies not specifically identified in response to the bulletin. Alternatively, please describe the inventory frequency for firefighter turnout gear needed to support the mitigating strategies.

The bulletin requested that each licensee describe in detail the controls for ensuring equipment needed to execute the mitigating strategies will be available when needed. In addition to the primary equipment needed to implement the mitigating strategies,

Enclosure

equipment, such as firefighter turnout gear, tools, and instruments, are also needed. The 60-day response specifically identifies the inventory frequency for tools and instruments but does not identify firefighter turnout gear.

B. O'Grady

- 2 -

If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-1377 or via e-mail at lynnea.wilkins@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/ra/

Lynnea E. Wilkins, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch IV
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-298

Enclosure:
Request for Additional Information

cc w/encl: Distribution via Listserv

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ADAMS Accession No.: ML113390265

OFFICE	NRR/DORL/LPL4/PM	NRR/DORL/LPL4/LA	NRR/DPR/PGCB/PM
NAME	LWilkins	JBurkhardt	BPurnell
DATE	12/5/11	12/5/11	12/5/11
OFFICE	NRR/DPR/PGCB/BC	NRR/DORL/LPL4/BC	NRR/DORL/LPL4/PM
NAME	SRosenberg	MMarkley	LWilkins
DATE	12/6/11	12/6/11	12/6/11

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