



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION IV
1600 E LAMAR BLVD
ARLINGTON, TX 76011-4511

February 20, 2015

Mr. Oscar A. Limpias, Vice President-Nuclear
and Chief Nuclear Officer
Nebraska Public Power District
Cooper Nuclear Station
P.O. Box 98
Brownville, NE 68321-0098

**SUBJECT: COOPER NUCLEAR STATION - NOTIFICATION OF NRC COMPONENT
DESIGN BASES INSPECTION 05000298/2015007 AND INITIAL REQUEST
FOR INFORMATION**

Dear Mr. Limpias:

On April 6, 2015, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will begin a triennial baseline component design bases inspection at the Cooper Nuclear Station. A seven person team will perform this inspection using NRC Inspection Procedure 71111.21, "Component Design Bases Inspection."

The inspection focuses on components and operator actions that have high risk and low design margins. The samples reviewed during this inspection will be identified during an information gathering visit and during the subsequent in-office preparation week. In addition, a number of operating experience issues will also be selected for review.

The inspection will include an information gathering site visit by the team leader and a senior reactor analyst, and three weeks of onsite inspection by the team. The inspection team will consist of seven members; a team leader, four NRC inspectors, and two contractors. Five of the members will focus on engineering and one on operations. The current inspection schedule is as follows:

- Onsite Information Gathering Visit: March 23, 2015
- Preparation Week: March 30, 2015
- Onsite Weeks: April 6-10, 2015; April 20-24, 2015; and May 4-8, 2015

The purpose of the information gathering visit is to meet with members of your staff to identify potential risk-significant systems, components, and operator actions. The team leader will also request a tour of the plant with members of your operations staff and probabilistic safety assessment staff. During the onsite weeks, several days will be needed on the plant-reference simulator in order to facilitate the development of operator action-based scenarios. Additional

information and documentation needed to support the inspection will be identified during the inspection, including interviews with engineering managers, engineers, and probabilistic safety assessment staff.

Our experience with these inspections has shown that they are extremely resource intensive, both for the NRC inspectors and for your staff. In order to minimize the inspection impact on the site and to ensure a productive inspection, we have enclosed a request for information needed for the inspection. The request has been divided into three groups. The first group lists information necessary for the information gathering visit and for general preparation. This information should be available to the regional office no later than March 13, 2015. Insofar as possible, this information should be provided electronically to the team leader. Since the inspection will be concentrated on high risk/low margin components, calculations associated with your list of high risk components should be available to review during the information gathering visit to assist in our selection of components based on available design margin.

The second group of documents requested are those items that the team will need access to during the preparation week in order to finalize the samples to be inspected. The third group lists information necessary to aid the inspection team in tracking issues identified as a result of the inspection. It is requested that this information be provided to the lead inspector as the information is generated during the inspection. Additional requests by inspectors will be made throughout all three onsite weeks for specific documents needed to complete the review of that component/selection. It is important that all of these documents are up to date and complete in order to minimize the number of additional documents requested during the preparation and/or the onsite portions of the inspection. In order to facilitate the inspection, we request that a contact individual be assigned to each inspector to ensure information requests, questions, and concerns are addressed in a timely manner.

The lead inspector for this inspection is Wayne C. Sifre. We understand that our licensing engineer contact for this inspection is Mr. James Flaherty. If there are any questions about the inspection or the requested materials, please contact the lead inspector by telephone at 817-200-1193, or by e-mail at Wayne.Sifre@nrc.gov.

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 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).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Eric A. Ruesch, Acting Chief
Engineering Branch 1
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket: 50-298
License: DPR-46

Enclosure: Component Design Bases Inspection
Request for Information

**Initial Request for Information
Component Design Bases Inspection
Cooper Nuclear Station**

Inspection Report: 05000298/2015007

Information Gathering Date: March 23, 2015

Inspection Dates: April 6-10, 2015; April 20-24, 2015; and March 4-8, 2015

Inspection Procedure: IP 71111.21, "Component Design Bases Inspection"

Lead Inspector: Wayne C. Sifre, Senior Reactor Inspector

I. Information Requested Prior to Information Gathering Visit (March 23, 2015)

The following information (Section I of this enclosure) should be sent to the Region IV office in hard copy or electronic format (compact disc or Certrec IMS preferred), to the attention of Wayne Sifre by March 13, 2015, to facilitate the reduction in the items to be selected for a final list during the preparation week March 30, 2015. The inspection team will finalize the selected list during the prep week using the additional documents requested in Section II of this enclosure. The specific items selected from the lists shall be available and ready for review on the day indicated in this request. *Please provide requested documentation electronically in "pdf" files, Excel, or other searchable formats, if possible. The information should contain descriptive names and be indexed and hyperlinked to facilitate ease of use. Information in "lists" should contain enough information to be easily understood by someone who has knowledge of boiling water reactor technology. If requested documents are large and only hard copy formats are available, please inform the inspector(s), and provide subject documentation during the first day of the on-site inspection.

1. An excel spreadsheet of equipment basic events (with definitions) including importance measures sorted by risk achievement worth (RAW) and Fussell-Vesely (FV) from your internal events probabilistic risk assessment (PRA). Include basic events with RAW value of 1.3 or greater.
2. Provide a list of the top 500 cut-sets from your PRA.
3. Copies of PRA "system notebooks," and the latest PRA summary document.
4. An excel spreadsheet of PRA human action basic events or risk ranking of operator actions from your site specific PSA sorted by RAW and FV. Provide copies of your human reliability worksheets for these items.
5. List of procedures used to accomplish operator actions associated with the basic event in your PRA.
6. A list of all time-critical operator actions in procedures.
7. If you have an external events or fire PSA model, provide the information requested in items 1-4 for external events and fire.

8. Any pre-existing evaluation or list of components and associated calculations with low design margins (i.e., pumps closest to the design limit for flow or pressure, diesel generator close to design required output, heat exchangers close to rated design heat removal, etc.).
9. List of high risk maintenance rule systems/components and functions; based on engineering or expert panel judgment.
10. Structures, systems, and components in the Maintenance Rule (a)(1) category.
11. Site top 10 issues list.
12. A list of operating experience evaluations for the last 2 years.
13. A list of permanent and temporary modifications for the previous 3 years.
14. List of current "operator workarounds/burdens."
15. List of root cause evaluations associated with component failures or design issues initiated/completed in the last 3 years.
16. List of any common-cause failures of components in the last 3 years.
17. Electrical one-line drawings for:
 - Off-site power/switchyard supplies
 - Normal AC power systems
 - Emergency AC/DC power systems including
 - 120VAC power
 - 125VDC/24VDC safety class systems
18. A copy of any self-assessments and associated corrective action documents generated in preparation for the inspection.
19. A copy of engineering/operations-related audits completed in the last 2 years.
20. Current management and engineering organizational charts.
21. List of licensee contacts for the inspection team with phone numbers.

II. Information Requested to be Available on First Day of Preparation Week (March 30, 2015)

1. An electronic copy of the Design Bases Documents for the selected components.
2. An electronic copy of the System Health notebooks for the selected components.
3. List of condition reports (corrective action documents) associated with each of the selected components for the last 5 years.
4. The corrective maintenance history associated with each of the selected components for the last 3 years.

5. Copies of calculations associated with each of the selected components (if not previously provided), excluding data files. Please review the calculations and also provide copies of reference material (such as drawings, engineering requests, and vendor letters).
6. Copies of operability evaluations associated with each of the selected components and plans for restoring operability, if applicable.
7. Copies of selected operator workaround evaluations associated with each of the selected components and plans for resolution, if applicable.
8. Copies of any open temporary modifications associated with each of the selected components, if applicable.
9. Trend data on the selected electrical/mechanical components' performance for last 3 years (for example, pumps' performance including in-service testing, other vibration monitoring, oil sample results, etc., as applicable).
10. List of motor-operated valves (MOVs) in the program, design margin and risk ranking.
11. List of air operated valves (AOVs) in the valve program, design and risk ranking.

III. Information Requested to be provided throughout the inspection

1. Copies of any corrective action documents generated as a result of the team's questions or queries during this inspection.
2. Copies of the list of questions submitted by the team members and the status/resolution of the information requested (provide daily during the inspection to each team member).
3. Reference materials (available electronically and as needed during all on-site weeks):
 - General set of plant drawings
 - IPE/PRA report
 - Procurement documents for components selected
 - Plant procedures (normal, abnormal, emergency, surveillance, etc.)
 - Technical Specifications
 - Updated Final Safety Analysis Report
 - Vendor manuals

Inspector Contact Information:

Wayne Sifre, Senior Reactor Inspector
U.S. NRC, Region IV
Attn: Wayne Sifre
1600 East Lamar Blvd.
Arlington, TX 76011-4511
817-200-1193 Wayne.Sifre@nrc.gov

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Eric A. Ruesch, Acting Chief
 Engineering Branch 1
 Division of Reactor Safety

Docket: 50-298
 License: DPR-46

Enclosure: Component Design Bases Inspection
 Request for Information

DISTRIBUTION
 See next page

ADAMS Accession Number ML15051A487

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUNSI Review By: WS	ADAMS: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Sensitive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sensitive	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Publicly Available <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publicly Available	Keyword NRC-002
OFFICE	RIV/DRS			RIV/DRS
NAME	WSifre			ERuesch
SIGNATURE	/RA/			/RA/
DATE	2/20/15			2/20/15

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Letter to Oscar Limpias from Eric Ruesch, dated February 20, 2015

SUBJECT: COOPER NUCLEAR STATION - NOTIFICATION OF NRC COMPONENT DESIGN BASES INSPECTION (05000298/2015007) AND INITIAL REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

DISTRIBUTION:

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