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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
1600 E. LAMAR BLVD
ARLINGTON, TX 76011-4511

April 3, 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 – NRC TEMPORARY INSTRUCTION 2201/004,
“INSPECTION OF IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERIM CYBER SECURITY
MILESTONES 1-7,” INSPECTION REPORT 05000298/2015403

Dear Mr. Limpias:

On March 27, 2015, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed a security temporary instruction inspection at your Cooper Nuclear Station. The inspection covered the implementation of interim milestones associated with your cyber security program, as outlined in your approved cyber security plan and described in Temporary Instruction 2201/004, “Inspection of Implementation of Interim Cyber Security Milestones 1-7,” Revision 1. The enclosed inspection report documents the inspection results, which were discussed on March 27, 2015, with Mr. D. Buman, Director, Engineering, and other members of your staff.

The inspection examined activities conducted under your license as they relate to safety and compliance with the Commission’s rules and regulations and with the conditions of your license. The inspectors reviewed selected procedures and records, observed activities, and interviewed personnel.

NRC inspectors documented four findings of very low security significance in this report. These findings involved violations of NRC requirements. Inspectors also documented one licensee-identified violation, which was determined to be of very low security significance.

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The NRC is treating these violations as non-cited violations consistent with Section 2.3.2.a of the Enforcement Policy. These issues were discussed and reviewed during a Security Issues Forum meeting conducted on February 25, 2015. The Security Issues Forum Panel review concluded that, although these issues constituted violations of Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR), Part 73, Section 54, "Protection of Digital Computer and Communication Systems and Networks," the NRC is exercising enforcement discretion. The NRC is exercising enforcement discretion for these violations because they meet the criteria established in an NRC Memorandum from Barry C. Westreich, Director, Cyber Security Directorate, Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response, to each regional office and Director, Division of Reactor Safety, Subject: Enhanced Guidance for Licensee Near-Term Corrective Actions to Address Cyber Security Inspection Findings and Licensee Eligibility for "Good-Faith" Attempt Discretion, dated July 1, 2013 (ADAMS Accession Number ML13178A203). Consistent with the NRC Memorandum, when you complete and close corrective actions associated with these violations, you are requested to provide written notification to the NRC's regional office as to the method and date of closure of the corrective actions for the identified violations.

If you contest the violations or significance of these non-cited violations, you should provide a response within 30 days of the date of this inspection report, with the basis for your denial, to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, DC 20555-0001; with copies to the Regional Administrator, Region IV; the Director, Office of Enforcement, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; and the NRC resident inspector at the Cooper Nuclear Station.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding," of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter 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).

The material enclosed herewith, however, contains Security-Related Information in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390(d)(1) and its disclosure to unauthorized individuals could present a security vulnerability. Therefore, the material in the enclosure will not be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the PARS component of NRC's ADAMS. If you choose to provide a response and Security-Related Information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, please mark your entire response "Security-Related Information—Withhold from public disclosure under 10 CFR 2.390" in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390(d)(1) and follow the instructions for withholding in 10 CFR 2.390(b)(1).

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390(b)(1)(ii), the NRC is waiving the affidavit requirements for your response.

Sincerely,

/RA/ Gregory A. Pick for

Gregory E. Werner, Branch Chief
Engineering Branch 2
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-298
License No. DPR-46

Nonpublic Enclosure:
Inspection Report No. 05000298/2015403
w/Attachment: Supplemental Information

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Letter to Oscar A. Limpias from Gregory E. Werner, dated April 3, 2015

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“INSPECTION OF IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERIM CYBER SECURITY
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