



**Nebraska Public Power District**

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NLS2015039  
March 30, 2015

50.75(f)(1)

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attention: Document Control Desk  
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Subject: Decommissioning Funding  
Cooper Nuclear Station, Docket No. 50-298, DPR-46

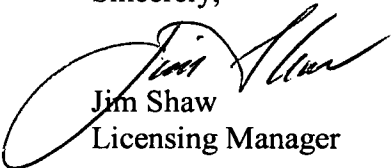
Dear Sir or Madam:

The purpose of this letter is to provide Nebraska Public Power District's Ninth Biennial Report on Financial Assurance for Decommissioning for Cooper Nuclear Station in accordance with 10 CFR 50.75(f)(1), Reporting and Recordkeeping for Decommissioning Planning. The enclosed report contains the amount of decommissioning funds estimated to be required pursuant to 10 CFR 50.75(b) and (c), the amount accumulated to the end of the calendar year preceding the date of the report, a schedule of the annual amounts remaining to be collected if needed, the assumptions used regarding rates of escalation in decommissioning costs, and the rate of earnings on decommissioning funds.

This letter does not contain commitments.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me at (402) 825-2788.

Sincerely,



Jim Shaw  
Licensing Manager

/jo

Enclosure: Ninth Biennial Report on Financial Assurance for Decommissioning in Accordance with 10 CFR 50.75(f)(1)

cc: Regional Administrator w/enclosure  
USNRC – Region IV

Cooper Project Manager w/enclosure  
USNRC – NRR Project Directorate IV-1

Senior Resident Inspector w/enclosure  
USNRC – CNS

NPG Distribution w/o enclosure

CNS Records w/enclosure

A001  
NRR

## **NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT**

**Ninth Biennial Report on Financial Assurance for Decommissioning in  
Accordance with 10 CFR 50.75(f)(1)**

**NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT**

**Ninth Biennial Report on Financial Assurance for Decommissioning**

**In Accordance with 10 CFR 50.75(f)(1)**

**Date:** March 18, 2015

**Station:** Cooper Nuclear Station

**Owner/licensee making the report:** Nebraska Public Power District

Nebraska Public Power District (the "District") is a public corporation and political subdivision of the state of Nebraska. The District has the power and is required to fix, establish, and collect adequate rates and other charges for electrical energy and any and all commodities or services sold or furnished by it. The District is accordingly authorized to establish its own rates and other charges through which it can recover its cost of service. The District is governed by an 11-member Board of Directors who are popularly elected from the District's chartered territory. The Board of Directors is the rate making authority for the District.

**Percentage Ownership:** 100

**10 CFR 50.75(b) & (c) Decommissioning Estimate (2014 Dollars):** \$633,277,000<sup>1</sup>

**Decommissioning Fund<sup>2</sup> Total as of 12/31/2014:** \$565,543,636

**Schedule of Future Annual Fund Projected Earnings and the NRC Minimum Decommissioning Cost in Constant 2014 dollars<sup>3</sup>**

Year	Beginning Balance	Funding Contribution	Funding Requirement Year-Beginning	Projected Earnings Credit Applying Approved Real Rate of Return	Ending Balance	NRC Minimum 2014 Dollars
2015	\$565,543,636	-	0	\$14,138,591	\$579,682,227	\$633,277,000
2016	\$579,682,227	-	0	\$14,492,056	\$594,174,283	\$633,277,000
2017	\$594,174,283	-	0	\$14,854,357	\$609,028,640	\$633,277,000
2018	\$609,028,640	-	0	\$15,225,716	\$624,254,356	\$633,277,000
2019	\$624,254,356	-	0	\$15,606,359	\$639,860,715	\$633,277,000
2020	\$639,860,715	-	0	\$15,996,518	\$655,857,232	\$633,277,000
2021	\$655,857,232	-	0	\$16,396,431	\$672,253,663	\$633,277,000

<sup>1</sup> This updated estimate is based upon NRC decommissioning minimum certification escalation requirements in 10 CFR 50.75(c)(1) and (2) and guidance per NUREG 1307 for a BWR the size (2,419 MW thermal) of Cooper Nuclear Station. The calculation utilizes the Combination of Compact-Affiliated and Non-Compact Facility generic waste burial factor in Revision 15 of NUREG 1307 and Labor (final) and Energy (preliminary) escalation factors derived from December 2014 Midwest regional data of the U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics. (This is the same figure as was derived for the 2013 funding status report. We note that the escalation of the Labor factor, and the de-escalation of the Energy factor, cancelled each other out using the NRC formula. And coupled with the use of the Revision 15, NUREG-1307, waste figure (as contemplated by RIS 2014-12, "Decommissioning Fund Status Report Calculations - Update to Low-Level Waste Burial Charge Information", October 14, 2014), the figures are the same.

<sup>2</sup> This is the total amount (market value) in the external sinking fund (as described in 10 CFR 50.75) to cover the costs of NRC-defined decommissioning.

<sup>3</sup> These figures will be recalculated on an annual basis in accordance with 10 CFR 50.75 (b) and (c). The above amounts reflect the current projected annual contributions (including fund earnings), as necessary, to fully fund the decommissioning trust by the end of the operating license (license expiration January 18, 2034), and taking into account a pro rata credit during the dismantlement period (recognizing both cash expenditures and earnings) over the first seven years after shutdown on a constant dollar basis (see 10 CFR 50.75(e)(1)(ii)). Please note that all prior submissions by the District in accordance with 10 CFR 50.75(f)(1) have been provided on a nominal dollar basis. This change is responsive to RAI #3 included in a May 23, 2013 email from Lynnea Wilkins, NRC Project Manager.

Year	Beginning Balance	Funding Contribution	Funding Requirement Year-Beginning	Projected Earnings Credit Applying Approved Real Rate of Return	Ending Balance	NRC Minimum 2014 Dollars
2022	\$672,253,663	-	0	\$16,806,342	\$689,060,005	\$633,277,000
2023	\$689,060,005	-	0	\$17,226,500	\$706,286,505	\$633,277,000
2024	\$706,286,505	-	0	\$17,657,163	\$723,943,668	\$633,277,000
2025	\$723,943,668	-	0	\$18,098,592	\$742,042,259	\$633,277,000
2026	\$742,042,259	-	0	\$18,551,056	\$760,593,316	\$633,277,000
2027	\$760,593,316	-	0	\$19,014,833	\$779,608,149	\$633,277,000
2028	\$779,608,149	-	0	\$19,490,204	\$799,098,352	\$633,277,000
2029	\$799,098,352	-	0	\$19,977,459	\$819,075,811	\$633,277,000
2030	\$819,075,811	-	0	\$20,476,895	\$839,552,706	\$633,277,000
2031	\$839,552,706	-	0	\$20,988,818	\$860,541,524	\$633,277,000
2032	\$860,541,524	-	0	\$21,513,538	\$882,055,062	\$633,277,000
2033	\$882,055,062	-	0	\$22,051,377	\$904,106,439	\$633,277,000
2034	\$904,106,439	-	\$90,468,142	\$20,340,957	\$833,979,254	
2035	\$833,979,254	-	\$90,468,143	\$18,587,778	\$762,098,889	
2036	\$762,098,889	-	\$90,468,143	\$16,790,769	\$688,421,515	
2037	\$688,421,515	-	\$90,468,143	\$14,948,834	\$612,902,206	
2038	\$612,902,206	-	\$90,468,143	\$13,060,852	\$535,494,914	
2039	\$535,494,914	-	\$90,468,143	\$11,125,669	\$456,152,441	
2040	\$456,152,441	-	\$90,468,143	\$9,142,107	\$374,826,405	

**Rate Assumptions**

**Rates of escalation used in estimating future decommissioning costs**

- 3%

**Rates of Earnings on Decommissioning Funds Post-tax<sup>4</sup>**

- 5.5%

**Contracts Relied Upon to Demonstrate Decommissioning Funding Assurance [50.75(e) (1) (v)]:** None

**Modifications to the District’s Current Method of Providing Financial Assurance:** None

**Material Changes to Decommissioning Trust Agreement:** None

NOTE 1: The District continues to maintain its Decommissioning Trust Fund investments in fixed income securities as required by Nebraska State Statutes.

<sup>4</sup> The assumed annual real rate of return is 2.50 percent. The District’s Board of Directors (as the licensee’s rate setting authority) has approved this assumption for the decommissioning funding plan for Cooper Nuclear Station through the adoption of a Board Resolution, dated June 13, 2008, as part of its official business. There has been no change to that Board Resolution, which was submitted as part of the July 14, 2011, RAI response.