

## **NRR-PMDAPEm Resource**

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**From:** Wang, Alan  
**Sent:** Monday, March 21, 2016 9:41 AM  
**To:** jdshaw@nppd.com; Van Der Kamp, David W.  
**Cc:** Blechman, Paula; Tilton, Caroline  
**Subject:** Acceptance Review: Cooper Nuclear Station License Amendment Request To Adopt TSTF-535 (CAC No. MF7442)

Jim and Dave,

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed the acceptance review for the license amendment request (LAR) dated March 11, 2016 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML16076A433), from Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD, the licensee), for the Cooper Nuclear Station (CNS). The LAR proposes to adopt Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF) Change Traveler, TSTF-535, Revision 0, "Revise Shutdown Margin Definition to Address Advanced Fuel Designs" into the TSs. Currently, the plant's shutdown margin (SDM), (i.e., the amount of reactivity by which the reactor is subcritical) was calculated using a shutdown moderator temperature of 68 degrees Fahrenheit (°F). This value was conservative for standard fuel designs. However, new, advanced Boiling Water Reactor fuel designs can have a higher reactivity at moderator shutdown temperatures above 68°F. Therefore, the amendment will implement TSTF-535, Revision 0, which modifies the TSs to require the SDM to be calculated at whatever moderator temperature produces the maximum reactivity, i.e.,  $\geq 68^{\circ}\text{F}$ . This TS improvement is part of the Consolidated Line Item Improvement Process (CLIIP) and NPPD has stated that the amendment request has no variations or deviations from the TSTS-535.

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 follow as far as applicable, the form prescribed for original applications. Section 10 CFR 50.34 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 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.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concludes that sufficient technical information is available to complete a detailed review of the amendment request. 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 Alan Wang at (301) 415-1445.

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NRR/DORL/PD IV-2  
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