

March 20, 2017

Angela Leek, Bureau Chief  
Bureau of Radiological Health  
Iowa Department of Public Health  
Lucas State Office Building, 5th Floor  
321 E. 12th Street  
Des Moines, IA 50319

SUBJECT: TERMINATION OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE DATA SYSTEM FEED FOR  
FORT CALHOUN STATION, UNIT NO. 1

Dear Ms. Leek:

This letter serves to notify the State of Iowa that the Emergency Response Data System (ERDS) data link supplied by the Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) for the Fort Calhoun Station, Unit No. 1 (FCS) to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Operations Center is no longer required based on the permanently shut down and defueled condition of the facility.

Section VI, "Emergency Response Data System," of Appendix E, "Emergency Planning and Preparedness for Production and Utilization Facilities," to Part 50, "Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities," of Title 10, "Energy," of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) establishes the requirement for a nuclear power reactor licensee to have a real-time electronic data link from the licensee's onsite computer system to the NRC Operations Center that provides for the automated transmission of a limited data set of selected parameters. The Memorandum of Understanding between the NRC and the State of Iowa (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML003676315) dated October 27, 1999 provides the basis for mutually agreeable procedures whereby the State of Iowa may utilize the NRC ERDS to receive data during an emergency at a commercial nuclear power plant for which any portion of the plant's 10 mile Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ) lies within the State of Iowa. Portions of the FCS EPZ lie within the State of Iowa.

By letters dated June 24, 2016 (ADAMS Accession No. ML16176A213) and August 25, 2016 (ADAMS Accession No. 16242A127), OPPD notified the NRC, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.82(a)(1)(i), of its intention to permanently cease power operations at FCS. On October 24, 2016, the FCS reactor ceased power generation. By letter dated November 13, 2016 (ADAMS Accession No. ML16319A254), OPPD submitted to the NRC certification, pursuant to 10 CFR 10 CFR 50.82(a)(1)(ii), of the permanent removal of fuel from the FCS reactor vessel and the placement of the fuel in the FCS spent fuel pool as of November 13, 2016. Upon docketing of these certifications, the 10 CFR Part 50 license for FCS no longer authorizes operation of the reactor or emplacement or retention of fuel into the reactor vessel, as specified in 10 CFR 50.82(a)(2).<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Requirements for the maintenance and use of ERDS by licensees who have submitted certification of permanent cessation of operations pursuant to 10 CFR 50.82, "Termination of Licenses," are described in a letter dated June 2, 2014, from Robert J. Lewis to NRC Regions (ADAMS Accession No. ML14099A520).

Nuclear power facilities that have permanently or indefinitely shut down are excepted from the requirements to have an ERDS data link to the NRC (see Section VI.2 of Appendix E to 10 CFR Part 50). By e-mail dated January 24, 2017, OPPD informed the NRC of OPPD's intent to revise the FCS procedures, under 10 CFR 50.54(q), to remove the requirement to activate the ERDS data transmission and terminate the FCS ERDS link to the NRC as of March 31, 2017.

The termination of the ERDS link for FCS does not impact the licensee's responsibility to provide State and local authorities with recommendations and advice on offsite action that they may consider to protect their citizenry. Also, OPPD is still required to provide notification to offsite authorities for an emergency declaration and provide information on facility status to support the assessment of a potential radiological release at the facility.

Finally, the termination of the ERDS link with FCS will not impact the State of Iowa's ability to continue to receive plant information via the ERDS link for incidents related to Duane Arnold Energy Center.

If you have any questions regarding the termination of the ERDS link for FCS, or continued interface with the NRC for an event at FCS, please contact Bezakulu Alemu at (301) 287-3731 or by email at [Bezakulu.Alemu@nrc.gov](mailto:Bezakulu.Alemu@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Stephanie Coffin, Acting Director  
Division of Preparedness and Response  
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response

Docket No. 50-285

SUBJECT: Termination of Emergency Response Data System Feed for Fort Calhoun Station,  
Unit No. 1

Dated: March 20, 2017

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**ADAMS Accession No. ML17027A124**

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