

March 20, 2017

Mr. Bryan Tuma  
Assistant Director  
Nebraska Emergency Management Agency  
1300 Military Road  
Lincoln, NE 68508-1090

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

Dear Mr. Tuma:

This letter serves to acknowledge 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. However, Section VI.2 of Appendix E to 10 CFR Part 50 specifically excepts from the requirement to maintain the ERDS data link with the NRC those nuclear power facilities that have permanently or indefinitely shut down.

By letters dated June 24, 2016 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (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>

Based on the certification of the permanently shut down and defueled condition of the FCS reactor, the NRC acknowledges that FCS is no longer required to have ERDS in accordance with Section VI.2 of Appendix E to 10 CFR Part 50. By e-mail dated January 24, 2017, OPPD

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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 Licensees," are described in a letter dated June 2, 2017, from Robert J. Lewis to NRC Regions (ADAMS Accession No. ML14099A520).

informed the NRC of OPPD's intent to revise the FCS procedures, under 10 CFR 50.54(q), and 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.

If you have any questions regarding the termination of the ERDS data link from FCS to the NRC Operations Center, please contact Bezakulu Alemu at (301) 287-3731 or by e-mail 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

cc:

Julia Schmitt, Manager, Radiation Control Program  
Nebraska Health & Human Services (DHHS),  
Division of Regulation and Licensure

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

Dated: March 20, 2017

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