



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 15, 2017

Ms. Mary J. Fisher  
Senior Director for Decommissioning  
Omaha Public Power District  
Fort Calhoun Station  
9610 Power Lane, Mail Stop FC-2-4  
Blair, NE 68008

SUBJECT: FORT CALHOUN STATION, UNIT NO. 1 – ACCEPTANCE OF REQUESTED  
LICENSING ACTION RE: EXEMPTIONS PORTIONS OF 10 CFR 50.47 AND  
10 CFR PART 50, APPENDIX E (CAC NO. MF9067)

Dear Ms. Fisher:

By letter dated December 16, 2016 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML16356A578), Omaha Public Power District (OPPD, the licensee) requested exemptions from portions of Sections 50.47(b) and 50.47(c)(2) of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), and 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix E for the Fort Calhoun Station, Unit No. 1 (FCS). The proposed exemptions would allow FCS to reduce emergency planning requirements consistent with the permanently defueled condition of the station.

The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of the exemption request. 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 concluded that the decay heat rate analysis was necessary to enable the staff to make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed exemptions request in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment.

By letter dated February 7, 2017 (ADAMS Accession No. ML17037D162), the NRC staff requested that OPPD supplement the application to address the decay heat rate analysis by February 17, 2017. By letter dated February 10, 2017 (ADAMS Accession No. ML17044A062), you provided a supplement and the NRC staff has found that the supplement, along with the application, provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed exemptions request in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. Given the lesser scope and depth of the acceptance review as compared to the detailed technical review, there may be instances in which issues that impact the NRC staff's ability to complete the detailed technical review are identified despite completion of an adequate acceptance review. You will be advised of any further information needed to support the NRC staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence.

Based on the information provided in your submittal, the NRC staff has estimated that this licensing request will take approximately 480 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review in approximately 12 months, which is December 2017. If there are emergent complexities or challenges in our review that would cause changes to the initial forecasted completion date or significant changes in the forecasted hours, the reasons for the changes, along with the new estimates, will be communicated during the routine interactions with the assigned project manager.

These estimates are based on the NRC staff's initial review of the application, and they could change due to several factors, including requests for additional information, unanticipated addition of scope to the review. Additional delay may occur if the submittal is provided to the NRC in advance or in parallel with industry program initiatives or pilot applications.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-4125 or e-mail at [James.Kim@nrc.gov](mailto:James.Kim@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Kim". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "K".

James Kim, Project Manager  
Special Projects and Process Branch  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-285

cc: Listserv

SUBJECT: FORT CALHOUN STATION, UNIT NO. 1 – ACCEPTANCE OF REQUESTED LICENSING ACTION RE: EXEMPTIONS PORTIONS OF 10 CFR 50.47 AND 10 CFR PART 50, APPENDIX E (CAC NO. MF9067) DATED FEBRUARY 15, 2017.

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**ADAMS Accession No.: ML17041A238**

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