U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT
REGION IV

Report No. 50-298/79-11

Docket No. 50-298 License No. DPR-46

Licensee: Nebraska Public Power District
P. O. Box 499
Columbus, Nebraska 68601

Facility Name: Cooper Nuclear Station

Inspection At: Cooper Nuclear Station, Nemaha County, Nebraska

Inspection Conducted: June 5-8, 1979

Principal Inspector: _____ July 11, 1979
G. L. Constable, Reactor Inspector Date

Other Accompanying Personnel: _____ July 11, 1979
L. E. Martin, Reactor Inspector Date

Approved By: _____ 7-11-79
T. F. Westerman, Chief, Reactor Projects Section Date

Inspection Summary
Inspection on June 5-8, 1979 (Report No. 50-298/79-11)
Areas Inspected: Routine, unannounced inspection of surveillance testing program and a review of plant operations. The inspection involved forty-eight (48) inspector-hours on-site by two (2) NRC inspectors.
Results: Of the two areas inspected, no items of noncompliance or deviations were noted.

## DETAILS

### Persons Contacted

L. I. Lawrence, Maintenance Supervisor
B. Brungardt, Surveillance Testing Coordinator
B. Land, Maintenance Clerk
A. Jantzen, I&C Supervisor
M. E. Cashatt, Shift Supervisor
*L. C. Lessor, Station Superintendent

*Present at the exit interview.

In addition to the above technical and supervisory personnel, the inspectors held discussions with various maintenance, operations, technical support and administrative members of the licensee's staff.

### 1. Plant Status

During the period of this inspection, the plant was in routine power operation at approximately 85% power.

### 2. Surveillance Testing and Calibration Control Program

The purpose of this inspection effort was to review the licensee's program for surveillance testing and calibration control for plant process and testing and measurement equipment. This review was to verify that the licensee's program as developed and implemented conforms with the requirements of 10CFR50, ANSI N45.2.4-1972, FSAR Chapter XIII, FSAR Appendix J, Technical Specification Sections 4 and 6, Regulatory Guide 1.33, IEEE 336, and applicable industry standards and guides.

The scope of this inspection effort included discussions with supervisory and coordination personnel, review of maintenance, surveillance and calibration schedules, logs and status reports, and the review of the following procedures and records, as applicable to the purpose of this inspection effort.

Administrative Procedure 1.2, Rev. 5, Responsibility
Administrative Procedure 1.4, Rev. 32, Station Rules of Practice
Administrative Procedure 1.5, Rev. 3, Training Program
Administrative Procedure 1.7, Rev. 11, Station Maintenance
Administrative Procedure 1.9, Rev. 6, Surveillance Program
Administrative Procedure 1.10, Rev. 10, NCR's and Corrective Action
Administrative Procedure 1.12, Rev. 5, Procedures, Report Use and Format

Maintenance Procedure 7.1, Rev. 3, Preventative Maintenance Program
Calibration Records for IS 2073 and IS 1706
Surveillance Procedure 6.1.8, Rev. 11, Turbine OPC Pressure Switch
Test Data for TGF PS63-OPC-2 per SP 6.1.8, completed on 6/7/79
Nonconformance Reports 1614 and 1620

No items of noncompliance or deviations were identified.

3. Review of Plant Operations

The purpose of this inspection effort was to review plant operations to verify that no abnormal conditions were present and to observe that operations were being conducted in accordance with license conditions and other NRC requirements.

The inspector reviewed the logs and records listed below, held discussions with shift personnel, observed instrumentation, and toured accessible areas of the plant.

- Night Order Book, March - June 5, 1979
- Shift Supervisor's Log, May 3 - June 7, 1979
- Control Room Operator's Log, March 29 - April 25, and May 20 - June 6, 1979
- Jumper Log - All outstanding entries
- Special Order Log and Instruction Log - All outstanding entries
- Scram Reports, April 7 - May 25, 1979
- Special Work Permit Log, May 5 - June 7, 1979
- Maintenance Work Request Log - All current entries
- Station Operator's Log, May 21 - May 31, 1979
- Nonconformance Reports, April 1 - May 31, 1979

No items of noncompliance or deviations were identified.

During the review of plant operations, the following unusual conditions were noted. On May 25, 1979, a high power reactor scram occurred as a result of recirculation pump overspeed. The overspeed apparently occurred as a result of a failure of the Baily positioner, which adjusts recirc pump speed. Subsequent troubleshooting of the Baily positioner failed to identify the cause of the overspeed condition. The reactor was restarted with the scoop tube that controls the speed of the recirculation pump in manual control. A licensee representative stated that the Baily positioners will be replaced at some as yet unspecified date. The resolution of this item will be reviewed during subsequent inspections.

On May 13, 28, and 31, 1979, plant operators observed conditions that indicated that a fire or fast burn had occurred in the off-gas system between the air ejectors and the catalytic recombiner. The cause of these burns is unknown at this time. The operators received an offgas high/low flow alarm and high filter differential pressure alarm. Offgas flow indication pegged high for a short time. Vent monitor activity was observed to decrease, apparently as a result of the decreased volume in the system. The operator also reported that the general radiation levels

in the area of the air ejectors increased. One of these fires continued to burn at the air ejector for approximately two hours, at which time it was extinguished. The licensee's plans for solving this problem involve a redesign of the augmented offgas system. This item will be reviewed during future inspections.

4. Exit Interview

The inspectors met with the Station Superintendent at the conclusion of the inspection. The scope of the inspection and the findings were discussed.