Omaha Public Power District

1623 HARNEY * OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68102 * TELEPHONE 536-4000 AREA CODE 402

April 12, 1979

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
ATTN: Mr. Robert W. Reid, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch No. 4
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Reference: Docket No. 50-285

Gentlemen:

The Omaha Public Power District received a letter from the Commission, dated November 29, 1978, requesting information concerning the practice of containment purging during plant operation. The District replied with letters dated December 28, 1978, and February 8, 1979. The letter of February 8, 1979, informed the Staff that an evaluation of the consequences of a reduction of containment pressure, during an accident caused by the 42" purge valves being temporarily (five seconds) open, on emergency core cooling system performance, would be available by April 15, 1979.

This letter is to inform you that the evaluation, to be performed by our reactor vendor, will not be completed until approximately October, 1979, at which time it will be submitted to support information provided in our above-referenced letters. Pending completion of the Staff's review of this subject, the District continues to commit to limit purging to an absolute minimum, not to exceed 90 hours per year; however, this does not preclude venting through the two inch vent line to keep containment pressures within Technical Specification limits.

Sincerely,

T. E. Short
Assistant General Manager

TES/KJM/BJH:jmm

cc: LeBoeuf, Lamb, Leiby & MacRae
1757 "N" Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

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