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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV 611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 1000 ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76012

Report No. 50-298/79-20 /80-05 1 3 MAR 1980

Nebraska Public Power District
Attn: J. M. Pilant, Director
Licensing and Quality Assurance
Post Office Box 499
Columbus, Nebraska 68601

Gentlemen:

This refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. F. T. Fong of the Region V office on January 21, 1980, at the Beatty, Nevada, waste disposal site and on December 20, 1379, at the Richland, Washington, waste disposal site, and to the discussion of our findings with Mr. Leo Lessor on March 6, 1980.

Areas examined during the inspection and our findings are discussed in the enclosed inspection report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of examination of records, independent measurements and observations by the inspector.

Based on the results of this inspection, it appears that one of your activities was not conducted in full compliance with NRC requirements, as set forth in the Notice of Violation, enclosed herewith as enclosure 1. This item of noncompliance has been categorized into the level, as described in the correspondence to you dated December 3, 1979, entitled "Criteria for Enforcement Action for Failure to Comply with 10 CFR 71." However, based on our discussion on March 6, 1980, it is our understanding that your position is that this item does not constitute noncompliance. Therefore, we are forwarding this matter to our headquarters office for resolution.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosed inspection report will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room. If this report contains any information that you believe to be proprietary, it is necessary that you make a written application within twenty (20) days to this office to withhold such information from public disclosure. Any such application must include a full statement of the reasons it is claimed that the information is proprietary. It should be prepared so that proprietary information identified is contained in a separate part of the document, since the application, excluding this separate part, will also be placed in the Public Document Room. If we do not hear from you in this regard within the specified period, the report will be placed in the Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please let me know.

Sincerely,

G. D. Brown, Chief

Fuel Facility and Material Safety Branch

Enclosures:

- 1. Notice of Violation
- 2. 50-298/79-20
- 3. 50-298-80-05

cc.

Cooper Nuclear Station
Attn: L. C. Lessor, Superintendent
P.O. Box 98
Brownville, Nebraska 68321