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

June 4, 1980

Docket No. 50-285

Mr. W. C. Jones  
Division Manager, Production  
Operations  
Omaha Public Power District  
1623 Harney Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68102

Dear Mr. Jones:

By letter dated December 28, 1978, as supplemented by letters dated February 8, April 12, and September 5, 1979, OPPD responded to the NRC's letter of November 28, 1978 concerning "Containment Purging During Normal Plant Operations" at the Fort Calhoun Station, Unit No. 1. The enclosed report (SAN-L-809027) was prepared for us by EG&G San Ramon under contract to Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, as part of our technical assistance program. This report provides a technical evaluation of the electrical instrumentation and control design aspects of the override of containment purge valves isolation and other engineered safety feature actuation signals and is based upon review of the design aspects against the six staff review criteria provided for the review. The isolation valves for venting and purging satisfy the staff review criteria cited above, with one exception. The exception, cited in the report, is that the radiation monitors that initiate CVI are not safety-grade as recommended in Criterion No. 5.

The NRC staff has reviewed the OPPD submittals and the enclosed consultant's technical evaluation. The staff agrees with the conclusion of the consultant that the electrical, instrumentation and control design aspects of the override of the containment purge valve isolation and other engineered safety features actuation signals are acceptable. The staff, however, wishes to clarify the consultant's conclusion that the radiation-monitoring equipment should be required to be qualified as safety-grade equipment at this time. The decision on a NRC requirement that this diverse signal monitoring equipment be qualified as safety-grade is open pending further staff review. The staff recommends the use of safety-grade equipment for initiation of containment ventilation isolation, and this recommendation has been incorporated into Regulatory Guide 1.141, Rev. 1, "Containment Isolation Provisions for Fluid Systems", which has been endorsed by the ACRS and has a proposed implementation schedule of January 1, 1981. However, we do not at this time, require system modifications to implement this recommendation. The staff, therefore, finds the design and installation features for the override of containment ventilation/purge isolation and other safety features actuation signals to be acceptable.

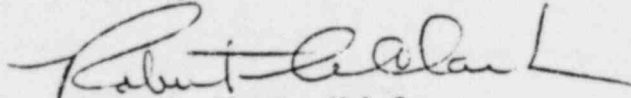
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Mr. W. C. Jones

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Our review of your December 7, 1979 letter indicates that OPPD has committed to the NRC's "Interim Position for Containment Purge", as transmitted by our letter of October 23, 1979. The NRC would expect this commitment to remain effective pending completion of our long-term review of this generic issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert A. Clark".

Robert A. Clark, Chief  
Operating Reactors Branch #3  
Division of Licensing

Enclosure:  
Technical Evaluation

cc w/o enclosure:  
See next page

Omaha Public Power District

cc

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