

Nebraska Public Power District

COOPER NUCLEAR STATION
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February 2, 1982

Director, Nuclear Reactor Regulation Attention: Mr. Domenic B. Vassallo, Chief Operating Reactors Branch No. 2 Division of Licensing U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: TMI Item I.A.1.3.2 "Shift Manning"

Cooper Nuclear Station

NRC Docket No. 50-298, DPR-46

Reference: 1) Letter from J. M. Pilant to D. G. Eisenhut

dated December 30, 1980 "Post TMI-Requirements/

Action Plan"

Dear Mr. Vassallo:

Mr. Ippolito's letter of January 6, 1982 requested that the District provide information if it is foreseen that the additional licensed operator (RO) staffing requirements cannot be met at CNS after July 1, 1982 due to personnel shortages. Cooper Nuclear Station currently has a sufficient number of licensed operators such that we met our commitment (2 SRO and 2 RO on each shift) prior to January 1982, a best estimate date stated in our October 31, 1980 letter to Eisenhut. Additionally, we have four operators in training to take the RO exam during May 1982. If the majority of these candidates pass the examination, we should have sufficient replacements for attrition to maintain the required staffing without using scheduled overtime. However, if attrition exceeds replacements, we would be forced to schedule overtime for the required shift manning. In our October 31, 1980 letter to Eisenhut, we discussed an average loss of licensed personnel at two per year. During 1981, we lost four senior licensed operators by way of attrition to companies providing consulting services.

The District is constrained to inform the staff that although no difficulties are expected at the present time in meeting these requirements, there is no way that we can exercise positive control over personnel who wish to terminate employment to work for the companies providing consulting services or numerous utilities with nuclear plants coming on line. This issue may be the subject of future correspondence as licensed operator positions become more difficult to fill.

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As stated in Reference 1, the District has not submitted the final Technical Specifications on the various manning issues pending acceptability of previous information supplied and future receipt of additional guidance in the form of Standard Technical Specifications.

If additional clarification on this issue is necessary, please contact me.

Sincerely,

J. M. Pilant

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Division Manager of Licensing and Quality Assurance

JMP:LCL:cg