

AUG 16 1990

In Reply Refer To:
Docket: 50-285/90-32

Omaha Public Power District
ATTN: W. G. Gates, Division Manager
Nuclear Operations
444 South 16th Street Mall
Mail Stop 8E/EP4
Omaha, Nebraska 68102-2247

Gentlemen:

This refers to the inspection conducted by Messrs. P. Harrell and T. Reis of this office during the period June 17 through July 28 and August 1, 1990, of activities authorized by NRC Operating License DPR-40 for the Fort Calhoun Station, and to the discussion of our findings with you and other members of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

Areas examined during the inspection included onsite followup of events; operational safety verification; monthly maintenance, surveillance, security, and radiological protection observations; licensee event report followup; and in-office review of licensee reports. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examination of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspectors. The inspection findings are documented in the enclosed inspection report.

During this inspection, it was found that certain of your activities were in violation of NRC requirements. Consequently, you are required to respond to this violation, in writing, in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.201 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations. Your response should be based on the specifics contained in the Notice of Violation enclosed with this letter. We also note, and are concerned, that this violation is a result of inadequate corrective actions in response to a noncited violation identified in late 1989. Your response should also discuss the actions you are taking to ensure that committed corrective actions are adequately and fully implemented.

Elevated ambient air temperatures again generated concerns as to the operability of the emergency diesel generators. As a result of discussions on this subject, you committed to prepare an indepth and comprehensive engineering evaluation addressing the postaccident electrical loading and the effects of elevated ambient air temperatures on emergency diesel generator operability. It is our understanding that this report will be submitted to the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation on or before August 31, 1990. The concerns with emergency diesel generator operability and performance are an unresolved item pending staff review of your engineering evaluation and are further discussed in paragraph 3.a of the enclosed report. In addition, the unit experienced a minor transient during this inspection period related to loss of control power to

<i>[Signature]</i> R:Reis/NO	<i>[Signature]</i> S:PHarrell	<i>[Signature]</i> DRP/C:RAZua	<i>[Signature]</i> C:DRP/C:GLConstable	<i>[Signature]</i> D:DRP: SJCollins
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pressurizer pressure and level control channels. We consider this type of transient to be avoidable if enhancements are made to your maintenance programs. It is our understanding that you will examine the feasibility of providing a mechanism to alert operators to switch to alternate control channels, where appropriate, when work affecting the online channel is ongoing. This commitment is discussed in paragraph 5.c of the enclosed report. Should your understanding of these commitments differ from ours, please contact me immediately.

The responses directed by this letter and the accompanying notices are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:
Thomas P. Gwynn

Samuel J. Collins, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosures:

1. Appendix A - Notice of Violation
2. Appendix B - NRC Inspection Report
50-285/90-32

cc w/enclosures:

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Department of Health
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Resident Inspector
P.O. Box 309
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611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000
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bcc to DMB (IE01)

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