UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT (Cooper Nuclear Station)

Docket No. 50-298

EXEMPTION

I.

The Nebraska Public Power District (the licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License No. DPR-46 (the license) which authorizes operation of the Cooper Nuclear Station located in Nemaha County, Nebraska, at steady state reactor core power levels not in excess of 2381 megawatts thermal (rated power). This license provides, among other things, that it is subject to all rules, regulations and Orders of the Commission now or hereafter in effect.

II.

Section 50.71(e) of 10 CFR Part 50 requires the licensees of nuclear power reactors to submit an Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR) within 24 months of July 22, 1980 (effective date of regulation).

By letter dated July 16, 1982, Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) stated that it could comply with the rule, but requested an Exemption from the requirements of 50.71(e) for Cooper Nuclear Station (CNS) for six months for the following reasons. To assure that the draft UFSAR, provided by Stone and Webster Engineering Corporation under contract to NPPD, would reflect the integrated operation of the station, the licensee embarked on a particularly indepth review. And further, the licensee used this occasion to involve all licensee personnel associated with the technical support of the station in this review, which it considers would provide valuable train-

ing. These aspects would have had to be curtailed to met the July 22, 1982 submittal date in the regulations. As a result, the licensee is requesting a six-month exemption from the date of compliance.

The staff has evaluated the licensee's request for a six-month extension to the regulation that requires an UFSAR be submitted by July 22, 1982. We believe that the extension of time is warrented to permit completion of an indepth review of the UFSAR and thus permit both the involvement and additional training of plant personnel. The staff has determined that good cause has been shown to support the exemption and therefore, a six-month exemption from the date of compliance is acceptable.

III.

Accordingly, the Commission has determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12, an exemption is authorized by law and will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security and is otherwise in the public interest. Therefore, the Commission hereby approves the following exemption from compliance with the July 22, 1982 date for submitting an UFSAR:

A revision of the original FSAR containing those original pages that are still applicable plus new replacement pages shall be filed by January 22, 1983. This revision shall bring the FSAR up to date as of a maximum of 12 months prior to the date of filing the revision. The next revision shall be filed no later than July 22, 1983 so that subsequent revisions will be in compliance with Section 50.71(e) of 10 CFR Part 50.

The NRC staff has determined that the granting of this exemption will not result in any significant environmental impact and that pursuant to 10 CFR 51.5(d)(4) an environmental impact statement or negative declaration and environmental impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with this action.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Division of Licensing

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this 22nd day of October, 1982