UNITED STATES



NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400 ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

OCT 25 1994

Docket: 50-298 License: DPR-46

Nebraska Public Power District ATTN: Guy R. Horn, Vice President - Nuclear P.O. Box 499 Columbus, Nebraska 68602-0499

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-298/94-27 (NOTICE OF VIOLATION)

(NOTICE OF DEVIATION)

This refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. W. M. McNeill of this office on September 12-16, 1994. The inspection included a review of activities authorized for your Cooper Nuclear Station facility. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report. There was a second exit meeting on October 13, 1994, during which your staff was informed of the violations identified in the enclosed report.

The area examined during the inspection is identified in the report. The inspection dealt with the design life problem encountered with Agastat relays. Within this area, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observation of activities in progress. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized by the license were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements.

Based on the results of this inspection, certain licensed activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation. The violations are of concern because they resulted in the plant being operated with certain relays beyond design life, and certain other relays not being tested or without assurance of complete testing.

Based on the results of this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to deviate from your commitments in the June 29, 1988, letter in response to NRC Inspection and Enforcement Bulletin 84-02, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Deviation. We are concerned about the deviation because the failure to have replaced relays resulted in the plant operating with components beyond design life.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notices when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. After reviewing your response to these Notices, including your proposed corrective actions and the results of

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future inspections, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice." a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

The responses directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Pub. L. No. 96.511.

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

Sincerely

Thomas P. Gwynn, Direc Division of Reactor S

Appendix A - Notice of Violation Appendix B - Notice of Deviation Appendix C - NRC Inspection Report

50-298/94-27 w/Attachment

cc w/enclosures: Nebraska Public Power District ATTN: G. D. Watson, General Counsel P.O. Box 499 Columbus Nebraska 68602-0499

Nebraska Public Power District ATTN: John Mueller, Site Manager P.O. Box 98 Brownville, Nebraska 68321

Midwest Power ATTN: James C. Parker, Sr. Engineer 907 Walnut Street P.O. Box 657 Des Moines, Iowa 50303

Lincoln Electric System ATTN: Mr. Ron Stoddard 11th and O Streets Lincoln, Nebraska 68508 Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality ATTN: Randolph Wood. Director P.O. Box 98922 Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-8922

Nemaha County Board of Commissioners ATTN: Larry Bohlken, Chairman Nemaha County Courthouse 1824 N Street Auburn, Nebraska 68305

Nebraska Department of Health ATTN: Harold Borchert, Director Division of Radiological Health 301 Centennial Mall. South P.O. Box 95007 Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-5007

Department of Natural Resources ATTN: R. A. Kucera, Department Director of Intergovernmental Cooperation P.O. Box 176 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Kansas Radiation Control Program Director

E-Mail report to D. Sullivan (DJS)

bcc to DMB (IEO1)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

Branch Chief (DRP/C)

MIS System

Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)

RIV File

Resident Inspector

Leah Tremper, OC/LFDCB, MS: MNBB 4503 DRSS-FIPB

Project Engineer (DRP/C)

Senior Resident Inspector - River Bend

Senior Resident Inspector - Fort Calhoun T. Westerman

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E-Mail report to D. Sullivan (DJS)

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L. J. Callan Branch Chief (DRP/C) MIS System

Branch Chief (DRP/TSS) RIV File

Resident Inspector Leah Tremper, OC/LFDCB, MS: MNBB 4503 DRSS-FIPB

Project Engineer (DRP/C) Senior Resident Inspector - River Bend

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*Previously concurred