

50-298



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 31, 1995

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

SUBJECT: COOPER NUCLEAR STATION - INSERVICE INSPECTION RELIEF REQUEST RI-07  
ON SURFACE EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERIOR SURFACE OF THE  
REACTOR PRESSURE VESSEL TO SUPPORT SKIRT WELD (TAC NO. M91346)

Dear Mr. Horn:

On November 1, 1994, the Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) submitted relief request RI-07 for the inservice inspection (ISI) program for the Cooper Nuclear Station (CNS). RI-07 requested relief from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code Section XI requirements regarding the surface examination of the reactor pressure vessel to support skirt weld. The ASME code requires a 100% surface examination to be performed on the subject weld. You requested relief to allow an alternate examination, consisting of a surface examination on the accessible side of the subject weld, and a volumetric examination of the interior area of the weld. NPPD requested relief of the ASME Code requirements to remain in effect through the second ten-year ISI interval.

The staff has completed its review of relief request RI-07. Enclosure 1 contains the staff's related safety evaluation. Also enclosed is the contractor's technical letter report (Enclosure 2). The staff has determined that the requirements of the Code are impractical for CNS, and relief is granted, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(g)(6)(i). This letter authorizes the proposed alternative through the end of the second ten-year inservice inspection interval, which will conclude on January 1, 1996, subject to the completion of the next refueling outage, which is scheduled to begin in October 1995.

On June 21, 1995, NPPD resubmitted RI-07 as one item in a group of all previous and new second ten-year interval ISI relief requests. In discussions with your staff, it is our understanding that RI-07 was merely included in the June 21 submittal for completeness and that the request was unchanged from the

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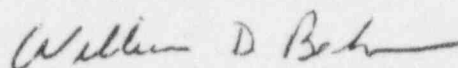
G. Horn

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August 31, 1995

November 1, 1994, submittal, which the staff has reviewed. If your understanding is different, or if you have any questions, please contact Mr. James R. Hall at (301) 415-1336.

Sincerely,



William D. Beckner, Director  
Project Directorate IV-1  
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-298

Enclosures: 1. Safety Evaluation  
2. Technical Letter Report

cc w/encls: See next page

August 31, 1995

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Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

William D. Beckner, Director  
Project Directorate IV-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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W. Russell/F. Miraglia	R. Zimmerman	E. Jordan	G. Hill (2)
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Document Name: CO091346.REL

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NAME	PNoonan <i>CPH/fc</i>	JRHall/vw <i>for</i>	<i>WBeckner</i>	WBeckner <i>WDB</i>
DATE	8/18/95	8/21/95	8/29/95	8/31/95
COPY	YES/NO	YES/NO	YES/NO	YES/NO

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*Legal objection with change in letter*

Mr. Guy R. Horn  
Nebraska Public Power Company

Cooper Nuclear Station

cc:

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