

MAR 16 1992

Docket No. 50-298
License No. DPR-40

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

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: INITIAL SYSTEMATIC ASSESSMENT OF LICENSEE PERFORMANCE (SALP) REPORT

This forwards the initial SALP Report (50-298/92-99) for the Cooper Nuclear Station. The SALP Board met on February 20, 1992, to evaluate the performance for the period July 16, 1990, through January 18, 1992. The performance analyses and resulting evaluations are documented in the enclosed initial SALP report.

In accordance with NRC policy, I have reviewed the SALP Board's assessment and concur with their ratings, as discussed below:

- ° The performance in the functional area of Plant Operations was rated as a Performance Category 2, which represents a decline from the previous rating of 1. Performance of the operating staff was excellent during routine, day-to-day activities. However, significant concerns with the ability of the operators to display command, control, and communications during response to simulated emergency conditions were identified.
- ° The functional area of Radiological Controls was rated as a Performance Category 2. This rating represents a decline from the previous rating of 1. Performance of the radiological protection staff was excellent during routine day-to-day activities. The decrease in performance rating was based on concerns identified with implementation of radiological control programs during the refueling outage. The types of problems identified indicated poor communications, coordination, and controls among plant radiological protection personnel, contractor radiological protection personnel, and radiation workers.
- ° The functional area of Maintenance/Surveillance was rated as a Performance Category 1, compared to a previous rating of 2. The increase in the performance rating was attributed to increased management involvement in this functional area and the excellent performance of the licensee's staff involved in maintenance and surveillance activities.

*PE:DRP/C	*C:DRP/C	PM:NRR	PD:NRR	*D:DRSS	*D:DRS
EECollins	PHHarrell	RBBevan	JTLarkins	LJCallan	SCollins
03/10/92	03/10/92	03/11/92	03/11/92	03/10/92	03/11/92

*D:DRP	*DRA	*RA
ABBeach	JMMontgomery	RDMartin
03/13/92	03/16/92	03/16/92

*Previously concurred

9203230182 920316
PDR ADOCK 05000298
G PDR

TEHO

- ° Performance in the area of Emergency Preparedness was rated as a Performance Category 2. The rating was based on the types of weaknesses identified during emergency exercises, and in walkthroughs with control room operators where weak performance was demonstrated in emergency plan implementation.
- ° The functional area of Security was rated as a Performance Category 1, an increase from the previous rating of 2. Management oversight and the performance of the security staff in this functional area were notable.
- ° The functional area of Engineering/Technical Support was rated as a Performance Category 2, with good performance noted overall. Management's inability to adequately address concerns identified in previous assessment periods with the licensed operator training program was a prime consideration in this rating.
- ° The functional area of Safety Assessment/Quality Verification was rated as a Performance Category 2. This rating was based on weaknesses identified with the licensee's corrective action program in that the threshold for issuance of nonconformance reports was too high to ensure that all potential deficient conditions were identified. The performance of the audit and oversight groups was good.

Overall, licensee performance was good with strengths and weaknesses noted. Strengths included management's oversight and involvement in the functional areas of Security and Maintenance/Surveillance. It was also noted that the performance of the personnel involved in implementation of the programs associated with these functional areas was superior.

Areas of performance requiring additional management attention and involvement include the licensed operator training program, performance of licensed operators during simulated emergency conditions, implementation of radiological protection programs, and the high threshold for documentation of deficiencies within the corrective action program.

On the basis of the SALP Board's assessment, the length of the SALP period will be approximately 15 months. Accordingly, the next SALP period will be from January 19, 1992, to April 24, 1993.

A management meeting has been scheduled with you and your staff at the Cooper Nuclear Station security building auditorium on March 24, 1992, at 10 a.m. to review the results of the SALP Board. Within 20 days of this management meeting, you may provide comments on and amplification of, as appropriate, the initial SALP report.

Your written comments, a summary of our meeting, and the results of my consideration of your comments will be issued as an appendix to the enclosed initial SALP report and will constitute the final SALP report.

Sincerely,

original signed by
Robert D. Martin

Robert D. Martin
Regional Administrator

Enclosure: Appendix - Initial SALP Report
50-298/92-99

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

Cooper Nuclear Station
ATTN: John M. Meacham, Division
Manager, Nuclear Operations
P.O. Box 98
Brownville, Nebraska 68321

Nebraska Department of Environmental
Control
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

Kansas Radiation Control Program Director

~~bcc to DMB (IE40)~~

bcc distrib. by RIV:

R. D. Martin
Section Chief (DRP/C)
DRSS-RPEPS
RIV File
RSTS Operator
Senior Resident Inspector - River Bend
Senior Resident Inspector - Fort Calhoun
The Chairman (MS: 16-G-15)
Commissioner Rogers (MS: 16-G-15)
Commissioner Curtiss (MS: 16-G-15)
Commissioner Remick (MS: 16-G-15)
Commissioner de Planque (MS: 16-G-15)
J. M. Taylor, EDO (MS: 17-G-21)
J. M. Montgomery
J. T. Gilliland, PAO
C. A. Hackney

Resident Inspector
Lisa Shea, RM/ALF
MIS System
Project Engineer (DRP/C)
DRP (2)
DRS
Chief, TSS
Records Center, INPO
G. F. Sanborn, EO
C. L. Cain, DRSS
RRIs at all sites
L. J. Callan, D:DRSS
J. P. Jaudon, DRSS
B. Murray, DRSS

RIV:
(DRP/C)

ie
KSTS Operator
Senior Resident Inspector - River Bend
Senior Resident Inspector - Fort Calhoun
The Chairman (MS: 16-G-15)
Commissioner Rogers (MS: 16-G-15)
Commissioner Curtiss (MS: 16-G-15)
Commissioner Remick (MS: 16-G-15)
Commissioner de Planque (MS: 16-G-15)
J. M. Taylor, EDO (MS: 17-G-21)
J. M. Montgomery
J. T. Gilliland, PAO
C. A. Hackney

Resident Inspector
Lisa Shea, RM/ALF
MIS System
Project Engineer (DRP/C)
DRP (2)
DRS
Chief, TSS
Records Center, INPO
G. F. Sanborn, EO
C. L. Cain, DRSS
RRIs at all sites
L. J. Callan, D:DRSS
J. P. Jaudon, DRSS
B. Murray, DRSS

bcc distrib. by RIV:

R. D. Martin
Section Chief (DRP/C)
DRSS-RPEPS
RIV File
RSTS Operator
Senior Resident Inspector - River Bend
Senior Resident Inspector - Fort Calhoun
The Chairman (MS: 16-G-15)
Commissioner Rogers (MS: 16-G-15)
Commissioner Curtiss (MS: 16-G-15)
Commissioner Remick (MS: 16-G-15)
Commissioner de Planque (MS: 16-G-15)
J. M. Taylor, EDO (MS: 17-G-21)
J. M. Montgomery
J. T. Gilliland, PAO
C. A. Hackney

Resident Inspector
Lisa Shea, RM/ALF
MIS System
Project Engineer (DRP/C)
DRP (2)
DRS
Chief, ISS
Records Center, INPO
G. F. Sanborn, EO
C. L. Cain, DRSS
RRIs at all sites
L. J. Callan, D:DRSS
J. P. Jaudon, DRSS
B. Murray, DRSS