



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

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

DEC 1 1995

Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation
ATTN: Neil S. Carns, President and
Chief Executive Officer
P.O. Box 411
Burlington, Kansas 66839

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-482/95-98

This refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. C. J. Paulk and Ms. L. J. Smith of this office on August 15-17, 1995, at the Wolf Creek Generating Station facility. This initiative was prompted by recurring failures of safety-related steam turbine-driven standby pumps at several facilities in Region IV. We concurrently performed this inspection at most Region IV facilities to better understand the scope of design, maintenance, and testing practices related to safety-related steam turbines, which were supplied by the Terry Corporation. We also examined several aspects of various experience review processes to determine why similar failures continued to occur. On November 9, 1995, at the conclusion of the in-office review, the findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures, representative records, and interviews with personnel. The combined results of this inspection for each of the Region IV facilities are documented in the enclosed report and executive summary.

With respect to your facility, the inspection identified several conditions that have resulted in mechanical overspeed trips of safety-related steam turbine-driven standby pumps at other facilities. Specifically, your staff had not established a program for routine refurbishment of the auxiliary feedwater turbine governor. They also had not established an acceptable range for the turbine oil level, which could result in aeration of the oil or a loss of lubrication. The inspection also noted that the governor valve stem material in use at your plant may be susceptible to sticking because the assumptions made regarding the stem material were inaccurate. We encourage you to review these conditions to ensure continued reliable operation of the auxiliary feedwater pump turbine.

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.

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

Sincerely,



Thomas P. Gwynn, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket: 50-482
License: NPF-42

Enclosure:
NRC Inspection Report
50-482/95-98
w/attachment

cc w/enclosure:
Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corp.
ATTN: Vice President Plant Operations
P.O. Box 411
Burlington, Kansas 66839

Shaw, Pittman, Potts & Trowbridge
ATTN: Jay Silberg, Esq.
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Regional Administrator, Region III
801 Warrenville Road
Lisle, Illinois 60532-4351

Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corp.
ATTN: Supervisor Licensing
P.O. Box 411
Burlington, Kansas 66839

Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corp.
ATTN: Supervisor Regulatory Compliance
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Burlington, Kansas 66839

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Missouri Public Service Commission
ATTN: Assistant Manager
Energy Department
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Kansas Corporation Commission
ATTN: Chief Engineer
Utilities Division
1500 SW Arrowhead Rd.
Topeka, Kansas 66604-4027

Office of the Governor
State of Kansas
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Attorney General
Judicial Center
301 S.W. 10th
2nd Floor
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1597

County Clerk
Coffey County Courthouse
Burlington, Kansas 66839-1798

Kansas Department of Health
and Environment
Bureau of Air & Radiation
ATTN: Public Health Physicist
Division of Environment
Forbes Field Building 283
Topeka, Kansas 66620

Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation

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E-Mail report to D. Nelson (DJN)
E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)

bcc to DMB (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

L. J. Callan
Branch Chief (DRP/B)
Section Chief (RIII, DRP/3C)
SRI (Callaway, RIII)
Project Engineer (DRP/B)
Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)

Resident Inspector
DRSS-FIPB
RIV File
MIS System
Leah Tremper (OC/LFDCB, MS: TWFN 9E10)

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11/29/95	11/22/95	11/22/95	12/1/95	11/30/95	12/1/95	

*previously concurred

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E-Mail report to D. Nelson (DJN)
E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)

bcc to DMB (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RTV:

L. J. Callan
Branch Chief (DRP/E);
Section Chief (RIII, DRP/3C)
SRI (Callaway, RIII)
Project Engineer (DRP/B)
Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)

Resident Inspector
DRSS-FIPB
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