



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 1000
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011

MAY 15 1992

Docket No. 50-298
License No. DPR-46

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

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-298/92-06 (NOTICE OF VIOLATION)

This refers to the inspection conducted by Messrs. R. A. Kopriva, W. C. Walker, and R. V. Azua and Ms. M. L. McLean of this office from March 8 through April 18, 1992. 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 Mr. R. L. Gardner and those members of your plant staff identified in the enclosed report.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examination of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations of activities in progress. The inspection findings are documented in the enclosed inspection report.

Based on the results of this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). This violation is of concern because it indicates a lack of respect for the safe work permit program by operations personnel, as evidenced by their failure to comply with a special work permit when entering a heater bay, a high radiation area.

Normally, this violation would not be cited because the criteria specified in Appendix C of 10 CFR Part 2 were satisfied. However, this violation is being cited because of the relatively large number of licensed operators that were involved in the failure to follow the requirements of a special work permit. More importantly, the failure of an operations supervisor to ensure that the special work permit requirements were properly

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Nebraska Public Power District -2-

implemented is an indication of a potential lack of respect for the radiological protection program by operations department personnel.

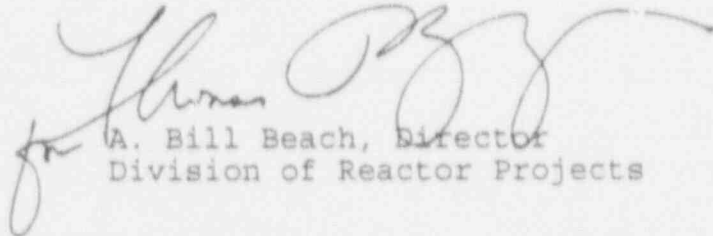
You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. After reviewing your response to this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


A. Bill Beach, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosures:

1. Appendix A - Notice of Violation
2. Appendix B - NRC Inspection Report
50-298/92-06

cc w/enclosures:

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 Public Power District -3-

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

Nebraska Public Power District
50-298/92-06

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bcc to DMB (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

R. D. Martin

DRP

Lisa Shea, RM/ALF

DRSS-RPEPS

Project Engineer (DRP/C)

Senior Resident Inspector - River Bend

Senior Resident Inspector - Fort Calhoun

D. McGuire, Region II

J. Creed, Region III

M. Schuster, Region V

G. McPeck, NRR, RSGB

Resident Inspector
Section Chief (DRP/C)

MIS System

RSTS Operator

RIV File

DRS

R. Keimig, Region I

L. Bush, NRR, RSGB

R. Wise, Region IV

P. McKee, NRR, RSGB

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RAKopriva EECollins BMurray MLMcLean CLCain

C:DRP/C D:DRP
PHHarrell ABBeach

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