



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

DEC 13 1996

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

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-482/96-23 AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Carns:

An NRC inspection was conducted October 20 through November 30, 1996, at your Wolf Creek Generating Station reactor facility. The enclosed report presents the scope and results of that inspection.

During this inspection, two violations were identified in the engineering and plant support areas. The first violation involved an operability evaluation you performed without properly identifying the affected component and the subsequent effect of the nonconformance on the affected component as required by your procedures. We understand that some members of your staff disagree with this conclusion as discussed in the report. This violation is of concern because the engineer's lack of rigor in properly identifying the affected component, and the failure of subsequent reviews of this evaluation to identify the misidentification, resulted in your staff not evaluating all the potential consequences of the leak on the turbine-driven auxiliary feedwater pump. The second violation involved a failure to properly establish and implement a required fire protection surveillance procedure. This is of concern because it suggests a lack of thoroughness and inattention to detail in preparing and implementing that procedure.

These violations are cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice) and the circumstances surrounding the violations are described in detail in the enclosed report. Please note that you are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosures, and your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR). To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction.

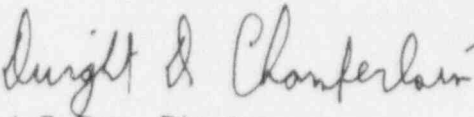
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Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating
Corporation

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

Sincerely,


for J. E. Dyer, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No.: 50-482
License No.: NPF-42

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. NRC Inspection Report
50-482/96-23

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

Jay Silberg, Esq.
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Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating
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Chief Engineer
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State of Kansas
Topeka, Kansas 66612

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Coffey County Courthouse
Burlington, Kansas 66839-1798

Public Health Physicist
Division of Environment
Kansas Department of Health
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Mr. Frank Moussa
Division of Emergency Preparedness
2800 SW Topeka Blvd
Topeka, Kansas 66611-1287

DEC 13 1996

E-Mail report to D. Nelson (DJN)
E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)
E-Mail report to R. Correia (RPC)
E-Mail report to R. Frahm, Jr. (RKF)

bcc to DMB (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

L. J. Callan	Resident Inspector (3)
DRP Director	SRI (Callaway, RIV)
Branch Chief (DRP/B)	DRS-PSB
Project Engineer (DRP/B)	MIS System
Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)	RIV File
Leah Tremper (OC/LFDCB, MS: TWFN 9E10)	

DOCUMENT NAME: R:_WC\WC623RP.JFR

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JFRingwald	WDJohnson	JEDyer					
12/6/96	12/10/96	12/13/96					

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