



Nebraska Public Power District

COOPER NUCLEAR STATION
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NLS970107
May 16, 1997

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Gentlemen:

Subject: Completion of NRC Bulletin 96-03 Commitments
Cooper Nuclear Station, NRC Docket 50-298, DPR-46

- Reference:
1. NRC Bulletin 96-03 dated May 6, 1996, "Potential Plugging of Emergency Core Cooling Suction Strainers by Debris in Boiling-Water Reactors"
 2. Letter to USNRC from G. R. Horn dated October 10, 1996, "Response to NRC Bulletin 96-03, Cooper Nuclear Station, NRC Docket 50-298, DPR-46"

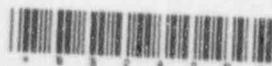
In response to NRC Bulletin 96-03 (Reference 1), the Nebraska Public Power District (District) committed, by letter dated October 10, 1996 (Reference 2), to modify the Emergency Core Cooling System (ECCS) suction strainers at the Cooper Nuclear Station (CNS) during Refueling Outage 17. This commitment was contingent upon final issuance of the Utility Resolution Guidance (URG) document. Although the URG has yet to be finalized, actions to implement the ECCS suction strainer modification have been completed. Specifically, the District has installed large capacity passive strainers that utilize a stacked disk configuration. The new design, based on proposed URG assumptions with added conservatism, increases the strainer surface area thus ensuring that the resulting debris loading will not result in the available net positive suction head (NPSH) pressure falling below that required for ECCS pump operation during a postulated loss of coolant accident (LOCA). While conservative assumptions were utilized in development, the District will evaluate the new design against the URG, once finalized, and resolve outstanding issues as required.

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In addition to the aforementioned modification, the District took positive actions during Refueling Outage 17 to desludge the torus and to reduce the loading of calcium silicate insulation in the drywell; however, mineral wool, in lieu of reflective metal insulation, was used in some instances to reduce this loading.

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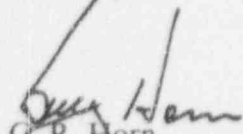
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NLS970107
May 16, 1997
Page 2 of 3

These actions fulfill commitments made by the District in response to NRC Bulletin 96-03.
Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me.

Sincerely,



G. R. Horn
Senior Vice President
Of Energy Supply
/crm

cc: Regional Administrator
USNRC - Region IV

Senior Project Manager
USNRC - NRR Project Directorate IV-1

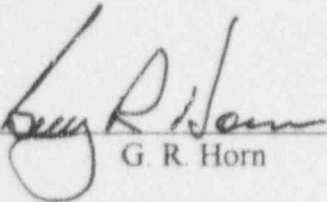
Senior Resident Inspector
USNRC

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NLS970107
May 16, 1997
Page 3 of 3

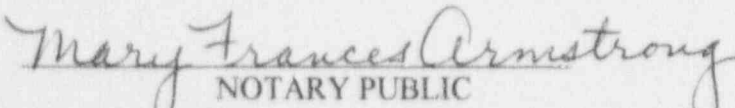
STATE OF NEBRASKA)
)
NEMAHA COUNTY)

G. R. Horn, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he is an authorized representative of the Nebraska Public Power District, a public corporation and political subdivision of the State of Nebraska; that he is duly authorized to submit this correspondence on behalf of Nebraska Public Power District; and that the statements contained herein are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.



G. R. Horn

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 16th day of May, 1997.



NOTARY PUBLIC

