WOLF CREEK
NUCLEAR OPERATING CORPORATION

Bart D. Withers
President and
Chief Executive Officer

March 1, 1988

WM 88-0047

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D. C. 20555

Mr. R. D. Martin, Regional Administrator
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000
Arlington, TX 76011

Subject: Docket No. 50-482: Response to NRC Bulletin 88-01

Gentlemen:

The purpose of this letter is to transmit Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation's response to NRC Bulletin 88-01, "Defects in Westinghouse Circuit Breakers", for Wolf Creek Generating Station, Unit No. 1. This bulletin requested licensees using Westinghouse series DS circuit breakers in Class 1E service to perform and document inspection of the welds on the pole shafts and inspection of the alignment in the breaker closing mechanism.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me or Mr. O. L. Maynard of my staff.

Very truly yours,

B D Withers

Bart D. Withers
President and
Chief Executive Officer

BDW/11k

Attachment

cc: B. L. Bartlett (NRC), w/a
P. W. O'Connor (NRC), 2 w/a

IE11
1/1

STATE OF KANSAS)
) SS
COUNTY OF COFFEY)

Bart D. Withers, of lawful age, being first duly sworn upon oath says that he is President and Chief Executive Officer of Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation; that he has read the foregoing document and knows the content thereof; that he has executed that same for and on behalf of said Corporation with full power and authority to do so; and that the facts therein stated are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

By B D Withers
Bart D. Withers
President and Chief Executive Officer

SUBSCRIBED and sworn to before me this 1 day of March, 1988.

Marlene Hearkman
Notary Public

Expiration Date August 4, 1990

RESPONSE TO NRC BULLETIN 88-01

I. Introduction

NRC Bulletin No. 88-01, "Defects in Westinghouse Circuit Breakers", was issued on February 5, 1988, to request addressees that use Westinghouse series DS circuit breakers in Class 1E service to perform and document inspection of the welds on the pole shafts and inspection of the alignment in the breaker closing mechanism. Specifically, addressees using Westinghouse DS-206, DSL-206, DS-416, DSL-416, and DS-420 circuit breakers in Class 1E applications, including reactor trip breakers (RTB), were requested to perform inspections in accordance with Westinghouse Technical Bulletin NSID-TB-87-11, except for the following changes in the indicated sections:

6.0. Add the following

However, inspection of the 3 main pole shaft welds for all RTBs (both main and bypass) should be completed within 30 days of receipt of this NRC bulletin.

6.1.1, 6.1.2, and 7.1 Add the following:

e) porosity - surface pin holes with cumulative diameters less than 1/16 inch in each inch of the weld.

6.2.4 Delete this section and the reference to it in Section 6.2.3.

With regard to Section 6.2.4, any RTB with a pole shaft that does not meet the criteria of Section 6.1.2 should be deemed inoperable and should <u>not</u> be used in the operating or bypass breaker position in the reactor trip switchgear. Such pole shafts should be removed from service and a replacement pole shaft installed in the breaker before returning it to service. The replacement pole shaft should meet the criteria in Section 6.1.1.

II. Actions Taken At WCGS

A review at Wolf Creek Generating Station (WCGS) indicated that there are five Westinghouse series DS circuit breakers on site that would be or are being used in Class 1E applications. These breakers, all of which are model DS-416, include two reactor trip breakers, two bypass reactor trip breakers, and one spare in the warehouse.

Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation (WCNOC) was made aware of recommendations to inspect the DS series circuit breakers by a Westinghouse letter dated September 11, 1987. The information in this letter was forwarded to the maintenance department and the inspections were scheduled in conjunction with the second refueling outage preventative maintenance. Subsequently, on December 1, 1987, Westinghouse issued Technical Bulletin NSID-TB-87-11 which superseded the recommendations in the September letter.

During the inspection performed during the second refueling outage, it was discovered that some of welds were suspect and based on this information, a decision was made to replace the pole shafts on all five breakers. WCNOC then procured 5 pole shaft assemblies from Westinghouse. In the Certificate of Conformance supplied with the pole shaft assemblies, Westinghouse certified that the pole shafts meet or exceed the requirements of the short-term and long-term inspection procedures for the pole shaft welds as outlined in both the September letter and the Technical Bulletin. The five pole shafts were then replaced with the work being completed on December 12, 1987.

During the installation of the new pole shafts, the alignment of the breakers were checked using the procedure in the Westinghouse Technical Bulletin. The results of this alignment check were satisfactory with the requirements of the Westinghouse Technical Bulletin being met for all five breakers.

On February 8, 1988, WCNOC received NRC Bulletin 88-01 which required inspections for porosity in addition to the inspection criteria outlined in the Westinghouse Technical Bulletin. To meet this requirement of the bulletin, an inspection of all the pole shaft welds was made on February 11, 1988, by a WCNOC certified welding QC inspector. All of the pole shaft welds met the acceptance criteria for porosity in NRC Bulletin 88-01.

III. Conclusion

There are five Westinghouse DS model circuit breakers used in Class 1E applications at WCGS. All five breakers had their pole shafts replaced during the second refueling outage because of suspect welds. The short-term and long-term inspections performed by Westinghouse and WCNOC on the new pole shafts showed that they meet the criteria set forth in both the Westinghouse Technical Bulletin and NRC Bulletin 88-01. Therefore, no further action is required by WCNOC and this letter fulfills all of the reporting requirements of NRC Bulletin 88-01.