July 2, 1997

Mr. Guy R. Horn Vice-President, Nuclear Nebraska Public Power District P. O. Box 499 Columbus, NE 68602-0499

SUBJECT: SITE VISIT TO COOPER NUCLEAR STATION

Dear Mr. Horn:

We are providing the enclosed agenda items in preparation for the site visit by Msrs. Tony D'Angelo and Jack Kudrick on July 9, 1997. These personnel are conducting an audit of your implementation of the emergency core cooling suction strainers in containment.

Please contact James Hall at (301) 415-1336 if you need any assistance or have any questions.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY: C. Rapp for James R. Hall, Senior Project Manager Project Directorate IV-1 Division of Reactor Projects III/IV Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-298

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Mr. G. R. Horn Nebraska Public Power Company

cc:

Mr. John R McPhail, General Counsel Nebraska Public Power District P. O. Box 499 Columbus, NE 68602-0499

Nebraska Public Power District ATTN: Mr. P. D. Graham Vice President of Nuclear Energy P. O. Box 98 Brownville, NE 68321

Randolph Wood, Director Nebraska Department of Environmental Control P. O. Box 98922 Lincoln, NE 68509-8922

Mr. Larry Bohlken, Chairman Nemaha County Board of Commissioners Nemaha County Courthouse 1824 N Street Auburn, NE 68305

Senior Resident Inspector U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission P. O. Box 218 Brownville, NE 68321

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

Ms. Cheryl Rogers, LLRW Program Manager Division of Radiological Health Nebraska Department of Health 301 Centennial Mall, South P. O. Box 95007 Lincoln, NE 68509-5007

Mr. Ronald A. Kucera, Department Director of Intergovernmental Cooperation Department of Natural Resources P.O. Box 176 Jefferson City, MO 65102 Cooper Nuclear Station

Lincoln Electric System ATTN: Mr. Ron Stoddard 11th & O Streets Lincoln, NE 68508

MidAmerican Energy ATTN: Dr. William D. Leech, Manager-Nuclear 907 Walnut Street P. O. Box 657 Des Moines, IA 50303-0657

Nebraska Public Power District ATTN: Mr. B. L. Houston, Nuclear Licensing & Safety Manager P. O. Box 98 Brownville, NE 68321

POTENTIAL AGENDA ITEMS

Discuss the drag force methodology used at your plant. This discussion should relate back to the previously staff approved methodology. For example if something other than solid volumes are used, the approach would appear to be a deviation and therefore a detailed discussion with supporting justification should be provided.

Deviations from the accepted methodology should be supported by the same level of tests or analysis as what was previously accepted in the original containment improvement program.

A review of the entire submerged structure load methodology should also be performed to identify any other deviations from the accepted methodology. If any deviations are found, a detailed discussion should be provided similar to the one identified above for drag forces.

The method of attachment of the strainers should be described including all support members. Note that the type of attachment should be provided. If welding is part of the attachment, provide the applicable codes and associated testing/qualification for the welding. Also include the number of weldments on the torus and associated structures.

If there has been a strengthening of either a penetration or any internal/external structures such as a ring girder which was made necessary by the installation of the new strainers, provide drawings and supporting analysis for these modifications.

Provide the program which reevaluated the new strainers impact on the plant unique analysis report (PUAR) that was undertaken to satisfy the original pool dynamics program for Mark 1 containment designs. The main objective is understand how the licensee made the determination of whether or not a USQ exists. Please explain how the Containment Long-Term Program relates to the plant licensing bases and to what extent can the analysis for hydrodynamic loads within the suppression pool be changed without prior NRC review and approval.

ENCLOSURE