

September 4, 1998

Mr. Otto L. Maynard
President and Chief Executive Officer
Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation
Post Office Box 411
Burlington, Kansas 66839

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF WOLF CREEK GENERATING STATION CHANGE TO POST-ACCIDENT SAMPLING SYSTEM COMMITMENTS (TAC NO. MA2059)

Dear Mr. Maynard:

By letter dated May 11, 1998, Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation (WCNOC) requested NRC approval to modify the Wolf Creek Generating Station Updated Safety Analysis Report, Section 18.2.3, regarding NUREG-0737, "Clarification of TMI Action Plan Requirements," sampling requirements for the post accident sampling system (PASS). Specifically, WCNOC requested approval to delete the in-line monitoring and grab sample capability for dissolved gases (e.g., hydrogen) in liquids (specifically, reactor coolant) due to the high cost of replacing the hydrogen analyzer (and computer system) and the cost of maintaining the hydrogen analyzer over the life of the plant. Further, WCNOC indicated that the dissolved hydrogen analysis is not used as part of any core damage assessment methodology at the Wolf Creek Generating Station, and no procedure utilizes the PASS hydrogen analyzer for any purpose.

As discussed in your letter, WCNOC evaluated the planned change to the Wolf Creek Generating Station Updated Safety Analysis Report (USAR) in accordance with 10 CFR 50.59 and concluded that elimination of the capability to sample the reactor coolant for hydrogen does not represent an unreviewed safety question at the Wolf Creek Generating Station. In accordance with 10 CFR 50.59, when a licensee determines that a change to the USAR does not represent an unreviewed safety question, prior NRC approval is not required. As in the past, the staff will continue to perform a review, on a sampling basis, of WCNOC's activities related to 10 CFR 50.59 to verify adequate implementation of the regulation.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1362.

Sincerely,
Kristine M. Thomas, Project Manager
Project Directorate IV-2 Original Signed By
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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PDR ADOCK 05000482
P PDR

Docket No. 50-482

cc: See next page

*For previous concurrences
see attached ORC

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Docket	OGC	PGwynn, RIV
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PDIV-2 Reading	KThomas	TCollins
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DOCUMENT NAME: WCA2059.LTR

OFC	PDIV-2/PM	PDIV-2/LA	PDIV-2*	OGC*	NRR:EMCB*
NAME	KThomas	EPeyton	WBateman	AHodgdon	TSullivan
DATE	8/4/98	8/31/98	8/6/98	8/17/98	8/25/98

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DATE	8/4/98	8/1/98	

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Mr. Otto L. Maynard

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September 4, 1998

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