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Omaha Public Power District

1623 HARNEY ■ OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68102 ■ TELEPHONE 536-4000 AREA CODE 402

October 16, 1978

Mr. Glen Madsen
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive
Suite 1000
Arlington, Texas 76012

Reference: NRC-OIE Report 50-285/76-15,
dated December, 1976

Dear Mr. Madsen:

In a letter dated January 7, 1977, the District responded to a question raised in the above-referenced inspection report, regarding the status of action taken to close out Open Item 73-16/2 concerning certain process monitors having high background count rates. Specifically, the Commission was informed that investigations were underway to correct problems with monitors RM-056B and RM-059 and that consideration was being given to replacing these detectors with high temperature monitors, if available.

This letter is to inform you that, to date, the District has been unable to procure satisfactory high temperature detector systems with proper certification. However, radiation monitor RM-059 will be re-located such that high detector temperature should present no problem. This should be accomplished by May 1, 1979. Furthermore, radiation monitor RM-056B will be left as is, without replacement or modification, for the following reasons:

- (1) The last maintenance order issued for RM-056B was December 5, 1975, to replace the voltage card. Since that time, the detector has operated satisfactorily.
- (2) A steam generator blowdown treatment system, currently under design, is scheduled to be installed and operable by 1980. This modification would eliminate the detector being exposed to high temperature fluid streams.
- (3) Rare malfunction of RM-056B does not constitute a health or safety problem to the general public. This is because RM-056B is located in the raw water overboard line and monitors nine effluent streams, two of which may contain

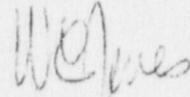
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radioactivity; steam generator blowdown and sampling system discharge. RM-054A and RM-054B are located upstream of RM-056B, providing monitoring of steam generator blowdown and sampling effluents. In addition, RM-054A and RM-054B will isolate steam generator effluents before applicable radioactive release limits are reached.

The District feels that the above approach is satisfactory to resolve problems experienced with these two detectors. The relocation of RM-059 should finally close out Open Item 73-16/2.

Sincerely,



for T. E. Short
Division Manager
Production Operations

TES/KJM/BJH:jmm

cc: LeBoeuf, Lamb, Leiby & MacRae
1757 "N" Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20036