



Nebraska Public Power District
Nebraska's Energy Leader

NLS980182
October 30, 1998

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

Gentlemen:

Subject: Main Steam Nozzle to Shell Weld Fracture Mechanics Evaluation
Cooper Nuclear Station, NRC Docket 50-298, DPR-46

Reference: Letter (No. NLS980178) to USNRC Document Control Desk from John H. Swailes (NPPD) dated October 26, 1998, "Main Steam Nozzle Weld Indication Relief Request"

In the above reference, the Nebraska Public Power District (District) informed the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) that it would submit the fracture mechanics evaluation related to the Main Steam nozzle to shell weld, N3A, for NRC review. The information contained in the attached fracture mechanics evaluation supplements the information contained in the above reference.

As anticipated in the above reference, the fracture mechanics evaluation concludes that the indication identified in weld N3A is acceptable for continued service. The subject indication meets the criteria of IWB-3612, Section XI, and primary stress requirements of Section III of the ASME Code.

The District has completed its examinations of the two Main Steam nozzle to vessel welds originally scheduled for period two (see above reference). No indications were identified during these inspections.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me.

Sincerely,

John H. Swailes
Vice President of Nuclear Energy

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Attachment

cc: Regional Administrator
USNRC - Region IV

Senior Project Manager
USNRC - NRR Project Directorate IV-1

Senior Resident Inspector
USNRC

NPG Distribution