



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

OCT 30 1998

G. R. Horn, Senior Vice President  
of Energy Supply  
Nebraska Public Power District  
1414 15th Street  
Columbus, Nebraska 68601

SUBJECT: PLANS FOR MONITORING PROGRESS OF THE COOPER NUCLEAR  
STATION STRATEGY FOR ACHIEVING ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE

Dear Mr. Horn:

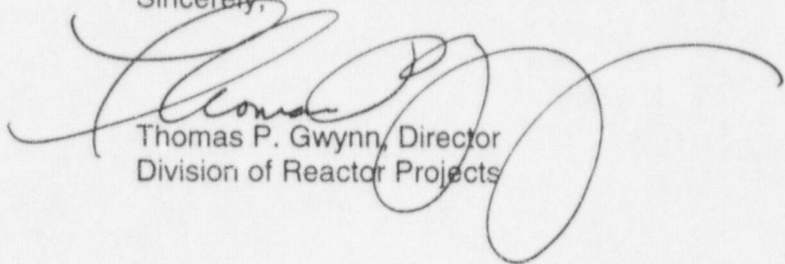
Thank you for your letter of October 7, 1998, detailing the actions you have committed to as part of the Strategy for Achieving Engineering Excellence (Strategy.) As you have indicated in your letter, we agree that these particular elements of the Strategy are important to your continued progress in improving engineering performance. We also agree that your efforts in monitoring the effectiveness in implementing these actions will provide important information about the degree to which you have succeeded in changing the people, processes, and structure of the engineering organization. We consider your commitment to obtaining an independent assessment of engineering, during the summer of 1999, a strong indication of your dedication to achieving superior performance.

We commend your performance improvement initiatives through implementation of the Strategy. We support your expressed desire to meet regularly to review your progress in implementing the Strategy. We expect that you may occasionally experience unexpected impacts on your ability to meet the schedule for completion of the planned improvement actions. We request that you inform us, in writing, of all significant changes to the Strategy. This notification should be made on a quarterly basis and, as closely as possible, should correlate with the engineering management meetings that are being scheduled. As a minimum, all schedule changes of greater than a month and any major content changes should be included in your submittal. This will allow us to remain current on your progress and will provide the information needed to discuss, in a timely manner, the implications on engineering performance improvements.

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P PDR

The NRC's day-to-day focal point for monitoring of engineering performance remains the resident inspection staff and Mr. C. S. Marschall, Chief, Project Branch C. Mr. Ken Brockman, Deputy Director, Division of Reactor Projects, continues as our management point of contact. Please feel free to communicate with these individuals on matters related to the Strategy.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Gwynn', is written over the typed name and title.

Thomas P. Gwynn, Director  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No.: 50-298  
License No.: DPR-46

cc w/enclosure:  
John R. McPhail, General Counsel  
Nebraska Public Power District  
P.O. Box 499  
Columbus, Nebraska 68602-0499

J. H. Swailes, Vice President of  
Nuclear Energy  
Nebraska Public Power District  
P.O. Box 98  
Brownville, Nebraska 68321

B. L. Houston, Nuclear Licensing  
and Safety Manager  
Nebraska Public Power District  
P.O. Box 98  
Brownville, Nebraska 68321

Dr. William D. Leech  
MidAmerican Energy  
907 Walnut Street  
P.O. Box 657  
Des Moines, Iowa 50303-0657

Mr. Ron Stoddard  
Lincoln Electric System  
1040 O Street  
P.O. Box 80869  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68501-0869

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

Chairman  
Nemaha County Board of Commissioners  
Nemaha County Courthouse  
1824 N Street  
Auburn, Nebraska 68305

Cheryl Rogers, LLRW Program Manager  
Environmental Protection Section  
Nebraska Department of Health  
301 Centennial Mall, South  
P.O. Box 95007  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-5007

R. A. Kucera, Department Director  
of Intergovernmental Cooperation  
Department of Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 176  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Jerry Uhlmann, Director  
State Emergency Management Agency  
P.O. Box 116  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Kansas Radiation Control Program Director

OCT 30 1998

bcc to DCD (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

Regional Administrator

DRP Director

Branch Chief (DRP/C)

Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)

Project Engineer (DRP/C)

Resident Inspector

DRS-PSB

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