



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

50-298

November 17, 1998

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

SUBJECT: RELIEF AUTHORIZATION FOR PUMP AND VALVE INSERVICE TESTING PROGRAM - COOPER NUCLEAR STATION (TAC NO. M98759)

Dear Mr. Horn:

By letter dated November 21, 1995, Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) submitted the Cooper Nuclear Station, third ten-year interval program for inservice testing of pumps and valves. The staff evaluated the relief requests contained in the NPPD revised IST Program and issued a safety evaluation (SE) on February 19, 1997. The SE approved ten relief requests, authorized 1-year interim relief for three relief requests (RV-08, RV-09, and RV-13), and denied five relief requests (RV-06, RV-07, RV-11, RV-12, and RV-14). NPPD addressed the five denied relief requests in Revision 1.2 of the Cooper IST Program dated April 29, 1997. NPPD addressed the three interim relief requests in Revision 2 of the Cooper IST Program dated August 7, 1997. Following the April 29, 1997, submittal, the NRC issued a request for additional information on July 30, 1997, related to RV-14. On September 5, 1997, NPPD responded to this request for additional information by withdrawing RV-14 and converting it into a refueling outage justification (Revision 2.1 of the IST Program). NPPD submitted one additional (new) relief request, RV-15, by letter dated May 4, 1998.

We have reviewed the revised relief request's (RV-06, RV-07, RV-08, RV-09, RV-11, RV-12, and RV-13) and the one new relief request (RV-15) and have reached the following conclusions.

The proposed alternative in relief requests RV-06, RV-07, RV-09, RV-11, RV-12 and RV-15 are authorized pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(ii) based on determinations that the proposals provide reasonable assurance of operational readiness and that compliance with the Code would result in a hardship without a compensating increase in the level of quality and safety. Relief requests RV-08 is granted as requested pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(f)(6)(i) based on the determination that compliance with the Code requirements is impractical. RV-13 is considered acceptable under provisions in OM-10 and, therefore, relief is not required. The testing as described in the Cooper Nuclear Station Third Interval IST Program will provide reasonable assurance of the operational readiness of the pumps and valves to perform their safety-related functions. Further information on our review and the details supporting these authorizations can be found in our safety evaluation enclosed.

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Mr. G. R. Horn

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If you have any questions in this matter, please contact David Wigginton at 301-415-1301. This completes our action under TAC number M98759.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

John N. Hannon, Director
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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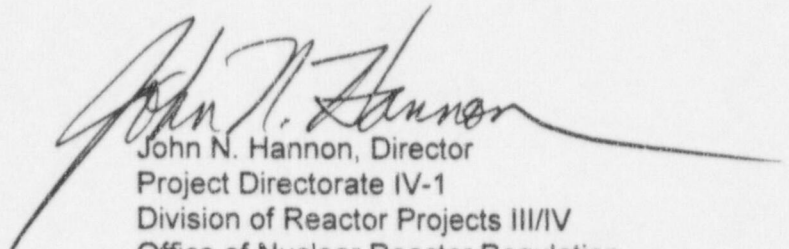
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Mr. G. R. Horn

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Sincerely,



John N. Hannon, Director
Project Directorate IV-1
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
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Mr. G. R. Horn
Nebraska Public Power District

Cooper Nuclear Station

cc:

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

Lincoln Electric System
ATTN: Mr. Ron Stoddard
1040 O Street
Box 80869
Lincoln, NE 68501

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

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

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

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

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