



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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

January 8, 1999

EA 98-554

S. K. Gambhir, Division Manager  
Nuclear Operations  
Omaha Public Power District  
Fort Calhoun Station FC-2-4 Adm.  
P.O. Box 399  
Hwy. 75 - North of Fort Calhoun  
Fort Calhoun, Nebraska 68023-0399

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-285/98-19 AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Gambhir:

From October 5-23, 1998, a routine core inspection of the corrective action program was conducted at your Fort Calhoun Station reactor facility. Inspection continued in the Region IV offices through December 11, 1998, when a supplemental telephonic exit was conducted with you and your staff. The enclosed report presents the scope and results of these inspection activities.

The team determined that Fort Calhoun Station had a good corrective action program. Conditions adverse to quality or conditions representing a potential to degrade the quality of plant operations were, for the most part, being effectively identified, resolved, and prevented.

Our inspection raised questions regarding the 10 CFR 50.59 safety evaluation for your switch modification to the steam-driven auxiliary feedwater pump. This modification was installed as corrective action to prevent recurrence of the event which overpressurized the auxiliary feedwater system during your last outage. During the onsite exit meeting, this issue was characterized as an unresolved item. Following the onsite portion of the inspection, your staff submitted additional information for our consideration in a letter dated November 16, 1998. This issue has subsequently been resolved and categorized as a minor violation, as we discussed during our December 11 conversation.

A violation was identified during the inspection. The violation identified corrective actions that were not adequate. We found the appropriate corrective action was not identified because of inadequate engineering evaluation of plant conditions involving a potential to degrade reactor core reactivity control.

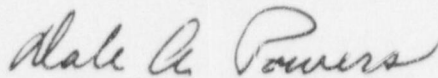
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This violation is cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice) and the circumstances surrounding the violation are described in detail in the enclosed report. Please note that you are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure, and your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR).

Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,



Dr. Dale A. Powers, Chief  
Engineering and Maintenance Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No.: 50-285  
License No.: DPR-40

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. NRC Inspection Report  
50-285/98-19

cc w/enclosures:

James W. Tills, Manager  
Nuclear Licensing  
Omaha Public Power District  
Fort Calhoun Station FC-2-4 Adm.  
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Nuclear Assessments  
Fort Calhoun Station  
P.O. Box 399  
Fort Calhoun, Nebraska 68023

J. M. Solymossy, Manager - Fort Calhoun Station  
Omaha Public Power District  
Fort Calhoun Station FC-1-1 Plant  
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Washington County Board of Supervisors  
Blair, Nebraska 68008

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



E-Mail report to T. Frye (TJF)  
 E-Mail report to D. Lange (DJL)  
 E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)  
 E-Mail report to Document Control Desk (DOCDESK)  
 E-Mail report to R. Correia

bcc to DCD (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

Regional Administrator  
 DRS Director  
 DRS Deputy Director  
 DRS-PSB  
 DRP Director  
 MIS System  
 Branch Chief (DRP/B)  
 RIV File  
 Project Engineer (DRP/B)  
 Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)  
 Resident Inspector  
 GFSanborn, EO  
 WLBrown, RC  
 JLieberman, OE (MS: 7-H5)  
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*JEWWhittemore/lmb		*DRCarter		*WMMcNeill		DAPowers <i>alp</i>		WDJohnson <i>for</i>	
12/ /98		12/ /98		12/ /98		12/12/98		12/14/98	
EO		D:DRS							
GFSanborn		ATHowell III							
12/ /98		12/8/98							

\*Previously concurred.

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*comment attached*