Omaha Public Power District
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402/536-4000

May 1, 1989
LIC-89-421

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Mail Station P1-137
Washington, DC 20555

Reference: Docket No. 50-285

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: Special Report on Inoperability of Fire Barrier and Fire Detection Systems

The Omaha Public Power District (OPPD), holder of Operating License DPR-40, submits this special report pursuant to the requirements of Fort Calhoun Station Unit No. 1 Technical Specification 2.19, "Fire Protection System."

Fort Calhoun Station Unit No. 1 Technical Specification Section 2.19(7) requires that all penetration fire barriers protecting safety-related areas shall be functional (intact). With a penetration fire barrier nonfunctional, within one hour, OPPD must either establish a continuous firewatch on at least one side of the affected penetration, or verify the operability of fire detectors on at least one side of the penetration and establish an hourly firewatch patrol. The nonfunctional penetration must be restored to functional status within seven days, or failing that, prepare and submit within an additional 30 days a report to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission pursuant to Technical Specification 5.9.3.

Fort Calhoun Station Unit No. 1 Technical Specification 2.19(1) requires that 50% of the fire detection instrumentation of zones shown in Table 2-7 shall be operable. With more than 50% inoperable detector(s) in a zone in safety-related areas outside of containment or with two adjacent detectors in a zone inoperable

a. Within one hour, establish a firewatch patrol to inspect the zone with the inoperable instrument(s) at least once every hour, and

b. Restore the inoperable instrument(s) to operable status within 14 days. If the instrument(s) are not restored to operable status within 14 days, prepare and submit a report to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, pursuant to Section 5.9.3.i of the Technical Specifications, within an additional 30 days, outlining the cause of

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the malfunction and the plans for returning the instrument(s) to operable status.

On March 17, 1989, a fire detector within Zone 15 was placed in alarm during painting operations in the area. Zone 15 was left in alarm (inoperable) until painting operations in the area were terminated, and the alarming detector located, cleaned, and the zone placed back into service on April 10, 1989.

During a modification which involved cable pulling, fire barrier penetration seal 20-E-7 was rendered inoperable on March 30, 1989. The penetration could not be restored until April 18, 1989, due to the unavailability of sealant materials required for repairs.

Fire detection Zone 15 and fire barrier penetration seal 20-E-7 were out of service for greater than 14 and 7 days, respectively, which exceeds the time limits of Technical Specification 2.19. As required by the applicable Technical Specification, the required compensatory measures were established and maintained for the entire time period in which the fire protection features were inoperable. No follow-up report will be issued since the features have been restored to operability. This report is being issued within the 30-day limit specified in Technical Specifications 2.19(1) and 2.19(7).

Sincerely,

for K. J. Morris
Division Manager
Nuclear Operations

KJM/jak

c: LeBoeuf, Lamb, Leiby & MacRae
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