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

November 5, 1999

Mr. Otto L. Maynard
President and Chief Executive Officer
Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation
Post Office Box 411
Burlington, KA 66839

SUBJECT: WOLF CREEK GENERATING STATION - REVISIONS TO THE UPDATED
SAFETY ANALYSIS REPORT (USAR) - PAST AND FUTURE COMPLIANCE
WITH 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4) (TAC NO. M72497)

Dear Mr. Maynard:

Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Subsection 50.71(e)(4) specifies the schedular requirements whereby licensees are to submit revisions to their Updated Final Safety Analysis Reports (UFSARs). It requires revisions to be made "...annually or 6 months after each refueling outage provided the interval between successive updates does not exceed 24 months." In a 1997 survey we found numerous incidents of noncompliance by licensees of both single- and multi-unit plants with this schedular requirement. In many cases, licensees for multi-unit sites were basing their UFSAR submissions on the outage schedule of one unit.

We understand that some confusion about the proper interpretation of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4) may have been caused by an NRC staff letter to Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd) dated June 15, 1993, which endorsed a submission schedule proposed by ComEd for its plants. Neither ComEd's proposed schedule nor the staff's endorsement were in literal compliance with 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4). Nevertheless, many licensees adopted the staff position expressed in the June 15, 1993, letter and thus deviated from the schedular requirements of this regulation. Recently, the staff granted exemptions to the ComEd plants. The transmittal letter (D. Skay to O. D. Kingsley, dated July 27, 1999) states that "this [Skay] letter and the enclosed exemptions supersede our letter of June 15, 1993."

The schedular requirements whereby licensees submit revisions to their UFSARs are in 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4), as modified by an exemption to the regulation. We note that you have not requested a schedular exemption to 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4) for the Wolf Creek Generating Station (WCGS). The purpose of this letter is to inform you that we will exercise enforcement discretion, in accordance with Section VII.B.6 of the NRC Enforcement Policy, for any incidents of past violation of 10 CFR 50.71(e)(4). In the future, we will enforce the schedular requirements as prescribed, or as modified by an exemption for WCGS.

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PDR A DOCK

O. L. Maynard

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November 5, 1999

There is no need to respond to this letter. If you have any questions, please call me at 301-415-1307, or through the internet at jnd@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,



Jack Donohew, Senior Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-482

cc: See next page

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O. L. Maynard

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November 5, 1999

There is no need to respond to this letter. If you have any questions, please call me at 301-415-1307, or through the internet at jnd@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jack Donohew". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "J" and "D".

Jack Donohew, Senior Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-482

cc: See next page

Wolf Creek Generating Station

cc:

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