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

December 13, 1999

SUBJECT: RELIEF REQUEST TO ALLOW USE OF ASME CODE CASE N-513 FOR WOLF CREEK GENERATING STATION (TAC NO. MA7159)

Dear Mr. Maynard:

By letter dated November 10, 1999 (ET 99-0048), you requested relief from 10 CFR 50.55a to use American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code Case N-513 at the Wolf Creek Generating Station (WCGS) to provide criteria for temporary acceptance of flaws of moderate energy Class 3 piping where a ASME Code Section XI repair may be impractical for a flaw detected during power operation (i.e., a plant shutdown would be required to perform the code repair). The use of Code Case N-513, with its limitations, would eliminate the need for the licensee to request approval from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for deferring the repairs until a planned shutdown. The Code Case contains the NRC's acceptance criteria for a licensee to defer the repairs.

The rulemaking published in the *Federal Register* (64 FR 51369) stated that as of November 22, 1999, all licensees may use ASME Code Case N-513 for the purpose stated in the previous paragraph. Because the rulemaking has become effective (i.e., the calendar date is now after November 22, 1999), you do not need relief from 10 CFR 50.55a to use Code Case N-513 at WCGS.

Sincerely,

/s/ *[Signature]* 12/13/99
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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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack Donohew".

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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Burlington, Kansas 66839**

**Vick L. Cooper, Chief
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