

February 09, 2001

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

SUBJECT: FORT CALHOUN STATION, UNIT NO. 1 - COMPLETION OF LICENSING ACTION FOR GENERIC LETTER 98-02, "LOSS OF REACTOR COOLANT INVENTORY AND ASSOCIATED POTENTIAL FOR LOSS OF EMERGENCY MITIGATION FUNCTION WHILE IN A SHUTDOWN CONDITION" (TAC NO. MA4771)

Dear Mr. Gambhir:

On May 28, 1998, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Generic Letter (GL) 98-02 to all holders of operating licenses for Pressurized Water Reactors (PWR), except those who have permanently ceased operations, and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel. The NRC issued GL 98-02 to request that PWR licensees evaluate a September 17, 1994, event, which occurred at Wolf Creek, that had the potential to draindown the reactor coolant system to the refueling water storage tank and, at the same time, render the emergency core cooling system (ECCS) and residual heat removal (RHR) system inoperable by introducing a steam/water mixture to the suction side of the ECCS and RHR pumps. Addressees of GL 98-02 were requested to provide the following information within 180 days: (1) an assessment of whether the addressee's facility is vulnerable to the September 17, 1994, Wolf Creek event, and (2) if the facility is found to be vulnerable, an assessment of the plant-specific 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B, quality assurance program attributes which will prevent the subject event. If the addressee's facility was determined to be vulnerable, a response to information item (1) was to be provided pursuant to 10 CFR 50.54(f) and 10 CFR 50.4, and the responses to information items (1) and (2) were to be kept in a licensee's retrievable system for use by the NRC staff on an as-needed basis.

In response to GL 98-02, your staff provided a verbal statement to your project manager that indicated Fort Calhoun Station, Unit 1, was not vulnerable to the type of incident which occurred at Wolf Creek and that the plant evaluation concerning the subject vulnerability (information item (2) of GL 98-02), was being kept in a retrievable licensee system that the NRC can verify on an as-needed or sample basis, in accordance with GL 98-02.

By letter dated January 19, 2000, the Region IV NRC staff issued NRC Inspection Report No. 50-285/99-13. The subject inspection report contained details of the NRC staff's on-site verification of activities which you undertook in response to GL 98-02 for Fort Calhoun. Specifically, the inspector determined that the engineering evaluation properly addressed the concerns of GL 98-02 and that the plant is not susceptible to the common-cause failure event in the generic letter.

The NRC staff has reviewed your response to GL 98-02 and has concluded that (1) all the information requested by GL 98-02 has been provided, and (2) that your on-site activities adequately addressed the concerns of GL 98-02 for Fort Calhoun Station, Unit 1; therefore, we consider GL 98-02 to be closed for Fort Calhoun Station, Unit 1.

Sincerely,

***/RA/***

L. Raynard Wharton, Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-285

cc: See next page

The NRC staff has reviewed your response to GL 98-02 and has concluded that (1) all the information requested by GL 98-02 has been provided, and (2) that your on-site activities adequately addressed the concerns of GL 98-02 for Fort Calhoun Station, Unit 1; therefore, we consider GL 98-02 to be closed for Fort Calhoun Station, Unit 1.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

L. Raynard Wharton, Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
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