



Nebraska Public Power District

Nebraska's Energy Leader

NLS2000075

February 15, 2001

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Gentlemen:

Subject: Proposed License Amendment
Cooper Nuclear Station, NRC Docket 50-298, DPR-46

- References:
1. Nebraska Public Power District letter dated February 12, 1973, from Ronald E. Reder to L. Manning Muntzing, USAEC, "Amendment No. 18 to License Application."
 2. Nebraska Public Power District letter dated March 3, 1977, from Jay M. Pilant to Dr. D. B. Rusche, USNRC, "Amendment No. 38 to Final Safety Analysis Report."
 3. NRC letter dated December 24, 1984, from Ernest D. Sylvester to J. M. Pilant, Nebraska Public Power District, issuing Amendment No. 89 to License DPR-46, "Radiological Effluent Technical Specifications (RETS)."

In accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 50.4 and 50.90, the Nebraska Public Power District (District) hereby submits a request for an amendment to the Cooper Nuclear Station (CNS) Operating License (OL) DPR-46 to 1) delete OL Condition 2.D, Additional Conditions for Protection of the Environment, and 2) remove depiction of railroad tracks in Technical Specifications (TS) Figure 4.1-1, Site and Exclusion Area Boundaries and Low Population Zone.

The requirements of OL Condition 2.D have been satisfied by modifications and have become obsolete due to Amendments. Thus, its deletion from the OL is warranted as an administrative change. Attachment 1 contains the basis for the OL Condition 2.D proposed change, the no significant hazards consideration, references supporting the OL change, and the Description of Change. Attachment 2 contains the affected OL page in marked-up form. Attachment 3 contains the affected CNS OL page in final type-written form.

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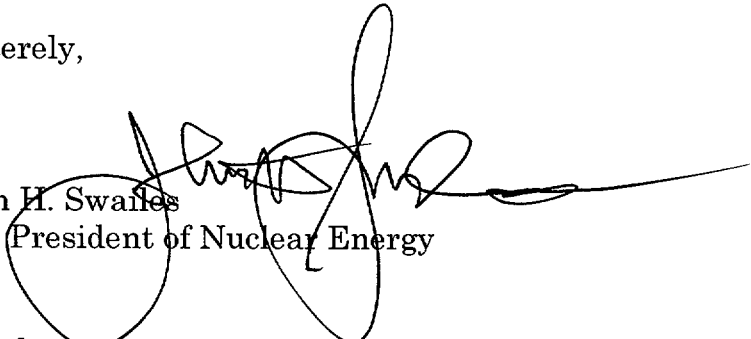
The rail line depicted in TS Figure 4.1-1 is a spur from the rail line to the CNS site that was used to provide transportation of heavy freight into and from the site. The proposed change would revise TS Figure 4.1-1, "Site and Exclusion Area Boundaries and Low Population Zone" to remove the depiction of railroad tracks and change the text font within the figure for readability. The District's business interests have found a use for the portion of the abandoned rail spur outside the Protected Area, and its eventual removal is desired. Attachment 4 contains the basis for the Figure 4.1-1 proposed change, the no significant hazards consideration, references supporting the change, and the Description of Change. Attachment 5 contains the affected CNS TS page in marked-up form. Attachment 6 contains the affected CNS TS page in final type-written form.

These proposed changes have been reviewed by the necessary Safety Review Committees (SORC and SRAB), and incorporate amendments to the CNS Facility Operating License through Amendment 184 issued April 11, 2000, the last amendment received. Since these changes are administrative in nature, the issuance of this requested OL Amendment may be included with issuance of another OL Amendment.

By copy of this letter and its attachments, the appropriate State of Nebraska official is notified in accordance with 10 CFR 50.91 (b) (1). Copies to the NRC Region IV office and the CNS Resident Inspector are also being provided in accordance with 10 CFR 50.4 (b) (2).

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact either me or Mike Boyce at (402) 825-5100.

Sincerely,



John H. Swailes
Vice President of Nuclear Energy

/elm
Attachments

cc: Regional Administrator w/ attachments
USNRC - Region IV

Senior Project Manager
USNRC - NRR Project Directorate IV-1 w/ attachments

Senior Resident Inspector w/ attachments
USNRC

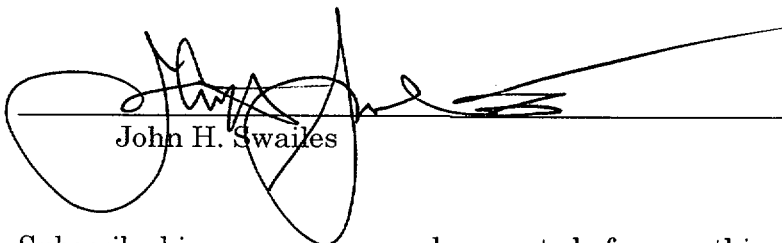
Nebraska Health and Human Services w/ attachments
Department of Regulation and Licensure

NPG Distribution w/o attachments

Records w/ attachments

STATE OF NEBRASKA)
)
NEMAHA COUNTY)

John H. Swailes, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he is an authorized representative of the Nebraska Public Power District, a public corporation and political subdivision of the State of Nebraska; that he is duly authorized to submit this correspondence on behalf of Nebraska Public Power District; and that the statements contained herein are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.



John H. Swailes

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 15 day of Feb, 2001.



NOTARY PUBLIC



Title: CNS Operating License Condition 2.D, Additional Conditions for Protection of the Environment

Listing of Revised Pages

Operating License (OL) Page 4

1.0 Introduction

The requirements of OL Condition 2.D have been satisfied by modifications and have also become obsolete due to Amendments. The first sentence of OL Condition 2.D required modifications to liquid and gaseous radiological effluent handling systems as described in Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) Amendment 18. FSAR Amendment 38 of March 3, 1977 reflected completion of those modifications. The second sentence, required release limits of OL Appendix B until the modifications were complete. Although it was moot after installing the modifications of Offgas and Radwaste systems in 1977 (FSAR Amendment 38), this condition remained in the OL. On July 1, 1986, OL Amendment 89 deleted Appendix B, Radiological Technical Specifications, in its entirety. Once Appendix B was deleted, the reference in the second sentence became obsolete.

2.0 Description of Change

Delete OL Condition 2.D, Additional Conditions for Protection of the Environment, in its entirety.

3.0 No Significant Hazards Consideration Evaluation

10 CFR 50.91 (a) (1) requires that licensee requests for operating license amendments be accompanied by an evaluation of significant hazard posed by issuance of an amendment. This evaluation is performed with respect to the criteria given in 10 CFR 50.92 (c).

3.1 Do the proposed changes involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated?

Response: No

OL Condition 2.D has become obsolete based upon it being satisfied or superseded by amendments to the FSAR and OL. The previous FSAR and OL amendments which made it obsolete were reviewed and approved based on their individual Unreviewed Safety Question (USQ) evaluations or no

significant hazards considerations. Since this proposed change does not physically alter any plant equipment or operating limitations, it therefore does not impact any previously evaluated accident initiator, nor change mitigating systems or features or operating limitations for accidents previously evaluated in the Updated Safety Analysis Report (USAR). Thus, it does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated. This is an administrative change.

- 3.2 Do the proposed changes create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated?

Response: No

This proposed change is administrative in nature. It does not involve a physical alteration of the plant. No new or different equipment is being installed, and no installed equipment is being operated in a new or different manner. No setpoints for parameters which initiate protective or mitigative action are being changed. As a result, no new failure modes are being introduced. There are no changes in the procedures or methods governing normal plant operation, nor are the procedures utilized to respond to plant transients altered as a result of this administrative change. This change does not impose any new or different requirements or eliminate any existing requirements. In addition, the change does not alter assumptions made in the safety analysis, nor does it impact the licensing basis. Therefore, the changes do not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

- 3.3 Do the proposed changes involve a significant reduction in the margin of safety?

Response: No

This proposed change is administrative in nature. It does not alter any accident analysis assumptions, conditions, or methodology. Since this proposed change does not physically alter plant systems, structures or components (SSC's), change mitigating systems, features, operating limitations, nor revise accident analysis assumptions, conditions or methodology, it does not involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

- 3.4 Based on the evaluations above, the District concludes that the activities associated with the described change presents no significant hazards consideration under the standards set forth in 10 CFR 50.92 and accordingly, a finding by the NRC of no significant hazards consideration is justified.

4.0 Environmental Impact Evaluation

10 CFR 51.22(c)(9) provides criteria for, and identification of, licensing and regulatory actions eligible for categorical exclusion from performing an environmental assessment. A proposed amendment to an operating license for a facility does not require an environmental assessment if operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not: 1) involve a significant hazards consideration, 2) result in a significant change in the types or significant increase in the amount of any effluents that may be released off-site, or 3) result in an increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The District has reviewed the proposed license amendment and concludes that it meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(c), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment needs to be prepared in connection with issuance of the proposed license changes. The basis for this determination is as follows:

- 4.1 The proposed license amendment does not involve significant hazards as described previously in the No Significant Hazards Consideration Evaluation.
- 4.2 As discussed in the No Significant Hazards Consideration Evaluation, this proposed change does not result in a significant increase in radiological doses for any Design Basis Accident. This proposed change does not result in a significant change in the types or significant increase in the amounts of any effluents that may be released off-site. The proposed license amendment does not introduce any new equipment, nor does it require any existing equipment or systems to perform a different type of function than they are presently designed to perform. The District has concluded that there will not be a significant increase in the types or amounts of any effluents that may be released off-site and these changes do not involve irreversible environmental consequences beyond those already associated with normal operation.
- 4.3 The change is administrative in nature. It does not adversely impact plant systems or operation, and therefore does not significantly increase individual or cumulative occupational exposure beyond that already associated with normal operation.

5.0 Conclusion

In conclusion, the District requests the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to delete Operating License (OL) Condition 2.D, Additional Conditions for Protection of the Environment. The requirements of OL Condition 2.D have been satisfied by Amendments to the Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) and OL and are no longer meaningful. This proposed change reflects changes already approved by FSAR and OL amendments. It does not physically alter plant SSC's, change mitigating systems or features, nor revise accident assumptions, conditions, or methodology. Therefore, the District concludes that the activities associated with the above described changes present no significant hazards consideration under the standards set forth in 10 CFR 50.92 and accordingly, a finding by the NRC of no significant hazards consideration is justified.

Revised OL Page 4 (Mark-up)

- (4) Fire Protection /069
- The licensee may proceed with and is required to complete the modifications identified in Paragraphs 3.1 through 3.37 of the NRC's Fire Protection Safety Evaluation (SE), dated May 23, 1979, for the facility. These modifications will be completed prior to July 1, 1980. /056
- In addition, the licensee shall submit the additional information in Table 3.1 of this SE in accordance with the schedule contained therein. In the event these dates for submittal cannot be met, the licensee shall submit a report, explaining the circumstances, together with a revised schedule. /056
- The licensee is required to implement the administrative controls identified in Section 6 of the SE. The administrative controls shall be in effect by November 1, 1979. /056
- (5) Additional Conditions /178
- The Additional Conditions contained in Appendix C, as revised through Amendment No. 178, are hereby incorporated into this license. Nebraska Public Power District shall operate the facility in accordance with the Additional Conditions. /178
- (6) No later than 8 weeks after the Cooper Nuclear Station (CNS) Cycle 21 startup, the licensee shall submit a request for the staff to review and approve a seismic evaluation to ensure the structural integrity of the main steam line piping from the main steam isolation valves (MSIV) to the main turbine condenser, the main turbine condenser, and the turbine building. The evaluation will be performed to assess the ability of the aforementioned main steam piping and main turbine condenser to remain sufficiently intact to direct main steam leakage from the MSIVs to the main turbine condenser, consistent with the leakage assumptions in the design-basis accident dose calculations during and after a Safe Shutdown Earthquake. This seismic evaluation will employ an analytical methodology acceptable to the staff and will identify any modifications necessary to support the evaluation. The licensee's approved request shall be fully implemented, including the completion of modifications, within 12 months of approval or prior to CNS Cycle 22 startup, whichever is later. /183

D.

~~(Not Used) This license is subject to the additional following conditions for the protection of the environment:~~

~~The licensee shall, for operation not later than April 30, 1975, modify the liquid and gaseous radiological effluent handling systems in accordance with the systems described in Amendment 18 to the Final Safety Analysis Report. If such systems are not installed by such date, the licensee shall, nonetheless, observe the gaseous activity release limits set forth in paragraph a.4 of Section 2.4.3 of Appendix B attached hereto and facility operation shall be restricted accordingly, is necessary.~~

Revised OL Page 4 (Final)

(4)	Fire Protection	/069
	The licensee may proceed with and is required to complete the modifications identified in Paragraphs 3.1 through 3.37 of the NRC's Fire Protection Safety Evaluation (SE), dated May 23, 1979, for the facility. These modifications will be completed prior to July 1, 1980.	/056 /056 /056 /056
	In addition, the licensee shall submit the additional information in Table 3.1 of this SE in accordance with the schedule contained therein. In the event these dates for submittal cannot be met, the licensee shall submit a report, explaining the circumstances, together with a revised schedule.	/056 /056 /056 /056
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D. (Not Used)

Title: Removal of Railroad Tracks from Figure 4.1-1, Site and Exclusion Area Boundaries and Low Population Zone.

Listing of Revised Pages

Technical Specification (TS) Page 4.0-3

1.0 Introduction

The proposed change would revise Technical Specifications Figure 4.1-1, "Site and Exclusion Area Boundaries and Low Population Zone" for Cooper Nuclear Station (CNS) to remove the depiction of railroad tracks along the main entrance road and into the plant and would change the text font within the figure for readability.

2.0 Background Discussion

The rail line depicted in Figure 4.1-1 (Attachment 5) is a spur from the rail line to the CNS site that was used to provide transportation of heavy freight into and from the site. After initial plant licensing, the rail line leading to and extending beyond the spur was removed by the Burlington-Northern Railroad. By 1991, the last portion of the rail line had been abandoned. This left the spur leading into the plant abandoned in place serving no further purpose for access to the plant. It has no plant operational nor safety related function, and it does not interface with any safety related plant structures, systems or components (SSC's). The abandoned spur crosses the protected area perimeter fence passing under it at 3 points. Inside the Protected Area one branch of the spur enters the Reactor Building at the railroad air lock door. No current requirements for this spur exist. The District's business interests have found a use for the portion of the abandoned rail spur outside the Protected Area, and its eventual removal is desired.

3.0 Description of Changes

The rail line depicted in Figure 4.1-1 (Attachment 5) is a spur from the rail line to the CNS site used to provide transportation of heavy freight into and from the site which has since been abandoned in place. The figure shows the rail line next to the Main Entrance road as a cross hatched line which then splits into 3 branches that cross the Protected Area perimeter. The rail line is no longer used and serves no plant operational or safety function. Thus, it adds no significant information to the figure. This change proposes to remove depiction of these tracks from Figure 4.1-1. To improve readability,

especially for photocopies, this change also proposes to change the font of text within the figure to lettering without serifs. The proposed annotated TS page change, and final revised figure are included as Attachments 5 and 6.

4.0 Technical Analysis

- 4.1 10CFR 50.36(c)(4) identifies Design Features to be included in Technical Specifications as those features of the facility such as materials of construction and geometric arrangements, which if altered or modified would have a significant effect on safety and are not covered in categories described in paragraphs (c)(1) Safety Limits and Limiting Safety System Settings, (c)(2) Limiting Conditions for Operation, and (c)(3) Surveillance Requirements. The rail spur, shown on Figure 4.1-1 and referenced from Specifications 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 within Design Features, is not a design feature that if altered or modified would have a significant effect on safety because it does not interface with any safety related SSC nor perform any safety related function.
- 4.2 The abandoned spur crosses the Protected Area perimeter fence passing under it at 3 points, but does not impede nor interfere with any physical security functions. Inside the Protected Area one branch of the spur enters the Reactor Building at the railroad airlock doors, but does not impede nor interfere with Secondary Containment Integrity. This change has no significant effect on safety since this rail spur has no plant operational nor safety related function itself, and it does not interface with any safety related plant SSC. As such, it does not impact any safety features, systems nor USAR accident analyses. The request to remove the railroad spur from the TS figure is equivalent to an administrative change.
- 4.3 In conclusion, the proposed change allows safe operation because it does not alter any safety systems, features or analyses used in the design of the plant. Neither does it alter physical security provisions.

5.0 No Significant Hazards Consideration Evaluation

10 CFR 50.91 (a) (1) requires that licensee requests for operating license amendments be accompanied by an evaluation of significant hazard posed by issuance of an amendment. This evaluation is performed with respect to the criteria given in 10 CFR 50.92 (c).

- 5.1 Do the proposed changes involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated?

Response: No

The proposed removal of the rail spur from Figure 4.1-1 has no effect on any accident previously analyzed in the USAR. The rail spur is neither an initiator of, nor a contributor to any initiators of the Design Basis accidents, and the rail road tracks do not interface with any plant equipment important to safety. The change has no effect on the consequences of any accident previously analyzed in the USAR. The rail spur does not interface with any equipment required to mitigate the consequences of any postulated accident, and the change to the figure does not affect the Exclusion Area Boundary or Low Population Zone. Therefore, the proposed change does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated. It is equivalent to an administrative change.

- 5.2 Do the proposed changes create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated?

Response: No

The rail spur's only purpose was to provide transportation of heavy freight into and from the site. Since the rail spur does not interface with any plant equipment, the termination of this passive function cannot create any new or different kind of accident. Therefore, the proposed change does not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any previously evaluated.

- 5.3 Do the proposed changes involve a significant reduction in the margin of safety?

Response: No

The rail lines do not interface with any plant systems, structures or components that are important to safety in any way that is not currently addressed by plant design features. The Reactor Building/Secondary Containment is not affected by removal of the rail lines from Figure 4.1-1. The proposed removal of rail lines from Figure 4.1-1 has no effect on the Exclusion Area and Low Population Zone as shown in the figure, and thus does not adversely impact the Emergency Plan or Security Plan. Therefore, the proposed change does not involve a reduction in a margin of safety.

- 5.4 Based on the above evaluations, the District concludes that the activities associated with the above described changes present no significant hazards consideration under the standards set forth in 10 CFR 50.92 and accordingly, a finding by the NRC of no significant hazards consideration is justified.

6.0 Environmental Impact Evaluation

10 CFR 51.22(c)(9) provides criteria for, and identification of, licensing and regulatory actions eligible for categorical exclusion from performing an environmental assessment. A proposed amendment to an operating license for a facility does not require an environmental assessment if operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not: (1) involve a significant hazards consideration, (2) result in a significant change in the types or significant increase in the amount of any effluents that may be released off-site, or (3) result in an increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The District has reviewed the proposed license amendment and concludes that it meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(c), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment needs to be prepared in connection with issuance of the proposed license changes. The basis for this determination is as follows:

- 6.1 The proposed license amendment does not involve significant hazards as described previously in the No Significant Hazards Consideration Evaluation.
- 6.2 As discussed in the No Significant Hazards Consideration Evaluation, this proposed change does not result in a significant increase in radiological doses for any Design Basis Accident. This proposed change does not result in a significant change in the types or significant increase in the amounts of any effluents that may be released off-site. The proposed license amendment does not introduce any new equipment, nor does it require any existing equipment or systems to perform a different type of function than they are presently designed to perform. The District has concluded that there will not be a significant increase in the types or amounts of any effluents that may be released off-site and these changes do not involve irreversible environmental consequences beyond those already associated with normal operation.
- 6.3 The change is administrative in nature. It does not adversely impact plant systems or operation, and therefore does not significantly increase individual or cumulative occupational exposure beyond that already associated with normal operation.

7.0 Conclusion

In conclusion, the District requests the NRC to revise TS Figure 4.1-1, "Site and Exclusion Area Boundaries and Low Population Zone" to remove the depiction of railroad tracks along the main entrance road and into the plant, and change the text font within the figure for readability. The proposed change allows safe operation because it does not alter any safety systems, features nor analyses used in the design of the plant. Neither does it alter physical security or emergency provisions. Therefore, the District concludes that the activities associated with the above described changes present no significant hazards consideration under the standards set forth in 10 CFR 50.92 and accordingly, a finding by the NRC of no significant hazards consideration is justified.

Attachment 5
to NLS 2000075
Page 1 of 2

Revised TS Page 4.0-3 (Mark-up)

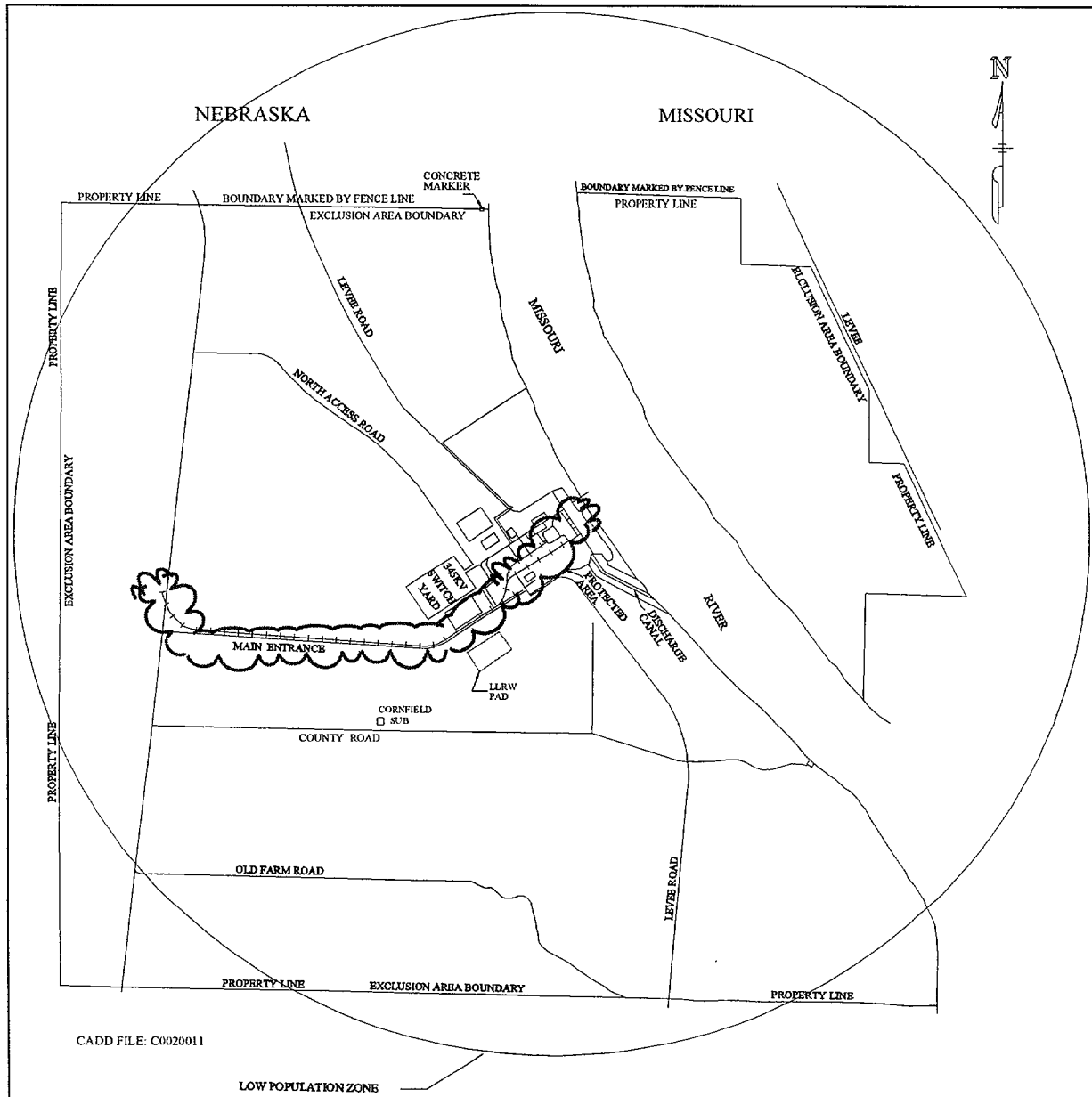


Figure 4.1-1 (page 1 of 1)
Site and Exclusion Area Boundaries
and Low Population Zone

Attachment 6
to NLS 2000075
Page 1 of 2

Revised TS Page 4.0-3 (Final)

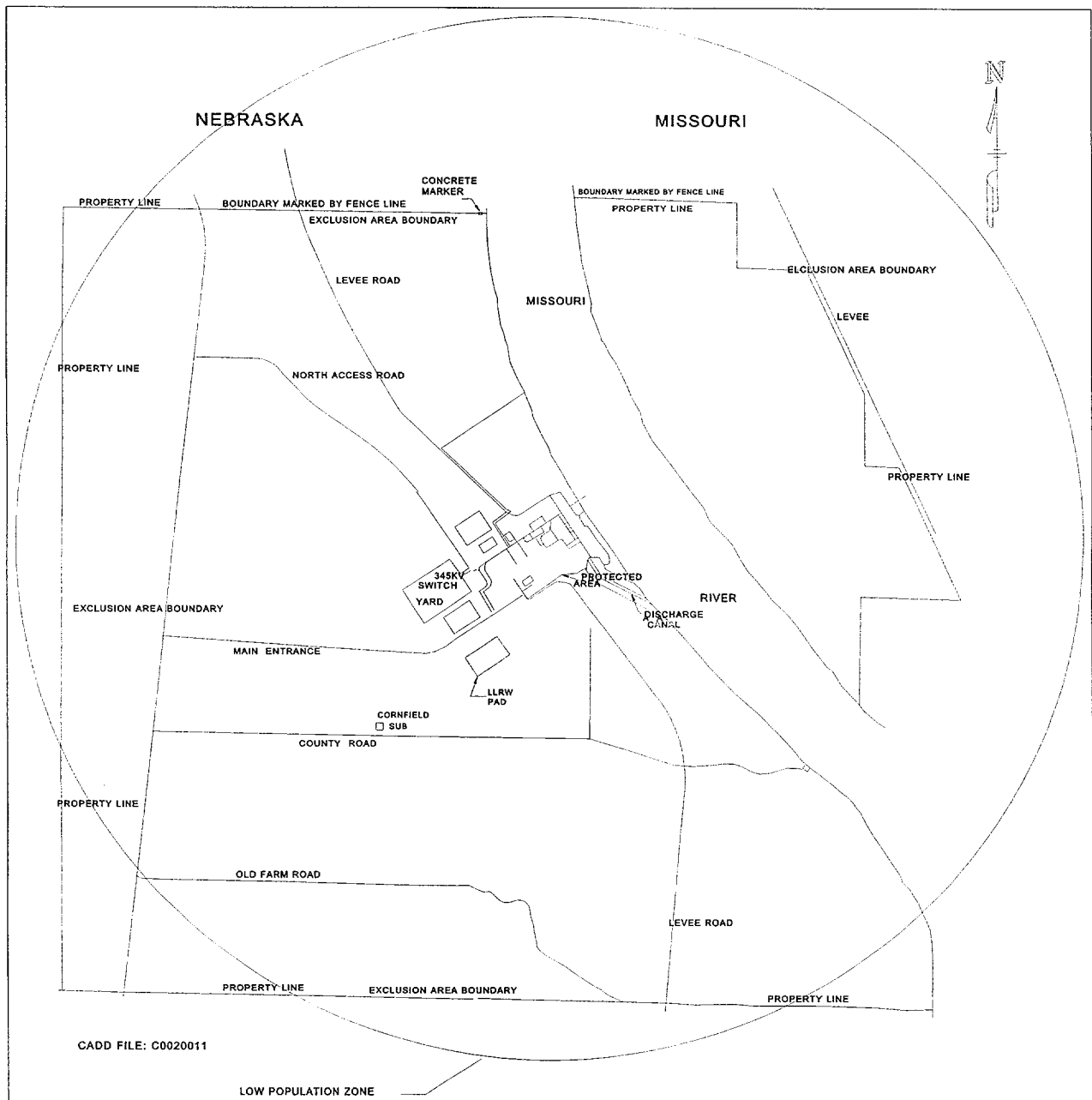


Figure 4.1-1 (page 1 of 1)
Site and Exclusion Area Boundaries
and Low Population Zone

ATTACHMENT 3 LIST OF NRC COMMITMENTS

Correspondence No: NLS2000075

The following table identifies those actions committed to by the District in this document. Any other actions discussed in the submittal represent intended or planned actions by the District. They are described to the NRC for the NRC's information and are not regulatory commitments. Please notify the **NL&S** Manager at Cooper Nuclear Station of any questions regarding this document or any associated regulatory commitments.

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